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## ABSOLUTE UNDERGROUND

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NEXT ISSUE - HOLIDAY LEFTOVERS

AUGURY, HOLY HELL, WARRBRINGER, STRATOVARIUS,

MUNICIPAL WASTE, THE IRON MAIDENS,

PLUS: HOW TO SURVIVE THE OLYMPICS

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|     |           |   |
|-----|-----------|---|
| THU | DEC. 3RD  | GETTING LOUDER! CAROLYN MARK, HONEYLOAF, RUSTY BUCKET, J.TAYLOR 10\$-15\$   |
| FRI | DEC. 4TH  | CUNTRY NIGHT IN CANADA T. B. A. 9PM 10\$  |
| SAT | DEC. 5TH  | IT'S MINT RECORDS' RIDICULOUSLY EARLY XMAS PARTY! THE PACK A.D., HOT PANDA, CAROLYN MARK, VANCUGAR, FANSHAW, AQUITANIA    |
| WED | DEC. 9TH  | KAMIKAZE ROCK N ROLL DEEJAY CHEEKY TIKI 9PM FREE,   |
| WED | DEC. 9    | LOGAN'S PUB PRESENT KAMIKAZE ROCK N ROLL!!!   |
| FRI | DEC. 11TH | LESBIAN FIST MAGNET, BOXFILLER, VONBONES, THE ROLE MODELS 9PM \$8   |
| SAT | DEC. 12TH | GUITAR LEGEND DICK DALE 9PM 25\$  |
| THU | DEC. 17TH | ZELAS HYPE 9PM  |
| FRI | DEC. 18TH | T'WAS A PUNK ROCK CHRISTMAS ANGRY SNOWMANS, VONBONES 9PM \$10   |
| SAT | DEC. 19TH | COME CELEBRATE THE DARK DAYS OF WINTER WITH- THE HIGH ARCTIC, WHAT'S WRONG TOHEI?, SEAWEEED POTEMKIN, + GUEST TBA 9PM 8\$ |
| MON | DEC. 21ST | ANNUAL MUSTARD SEED BENEFIT SHOW 9PM DOORS AT 8PM   |
| THU | DEC. 31ST | ELEPHANT ISLAND PLAY TALKING HEADS ALL NIGHT LONG!!! 9PM 15\$   |
| SAT | JAN. 2ND  | RORSCHACH, HUGENELK, BLACK WIZAR 9PM 8\$  |
| THU | JAN. 7TH  | MISS QUINCY, SIDESHOW 9PM 10\$  |
| SAT | JAN. 16TH | THE GRUFF, GUESTS, TBA 9PM 10\$   |
| FRI | JAN. 29TH | JAN BROWN MEMORIAL SHOW, ACTS, TBA 9PM 10\$   |
| SAT | JAN. 30TH | MENDOZZA, GUESTS TBA 9PM 8\$  |

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## VICTORIAS LOCALS ONLY



### End With The Mongoose

#### Interview with guitarist Jono Jak

by Dustin Jak

Emerging out of the Garden city with a Modus Operandi similar to Vlad Tepes or Countess Bathory, Start With The Cobra are here to smack you and your bitch up with the same open hand you would receive from Electric Frankenstein, The New Bomb Turks, Toilet Boys, Glucifer, Candy Snatchers or any other band on Man's Ruin or Junk Records in the late 90's. The Spitfires are playing reunion gigs and Billy Hopeless kicked his Halos out for listening to the fuckin' Smiths (his words dude) so someone has to carry the rock torch for a while!! Anyone who knows Jono Jak (the man who put Turbonegro Tom on the Jak'S!!!!) or Creepy (Naughty Camp) Simon Game, knows anything can happen at any time; huck in a couple of Rod Iron Haulers, add a Mag and you have probably the most tear shit up rock band since the legendary Felchers (anyone who saw these maniacs in '98-'99' knows what I mean). The next time these dicks hit your town, go out and see em, just make sure to take the next few days off of work! Oh and Jono hates being called V'Jono!!!

**Absolute Underground: What bands were all you assholes in before START WITH THE COBRA?**

Jono Jak - Old schoolers like: Breach, PCP, Speak

Easy, Jiz Wailers, and newer shit like The Gung Hos, Rod Iron Haulers, Excessives, The Mags.

**AU: What bands did guys listen to growing up?**

Jono: Thin Lizzy, ZZ Top, Meat Men, Ramones, Surf Punks, The Who, Beatles, The Monkeys, Boney M, Anal Cunt.... we listened to everything.

**AU: What were some of your favorite local bands?**

Jono: Shut Down, those guys knew how to party.

**AU: Describe the type of sound you guys dole out**

Jono: Pure B.C Pube Rawk... without the beards.

**AU: Who writes the majority of the songs?**

Jono: I started the band with some hum-dingers I had in the tickle trunk. Christian came aboard a little later down the line and brought his own blend of macho riffs. Creepy has some guitar experience too, so we all add a little these days.

**AU: What's your favorite city to score hard drugs on the streets after midnight in?**

Jono: Seattle because you can pretend to be a rapper, and there's always a 50/50 chance things will go horribly wrong... I can't get SHIT here after midnight.

**AU: What are some of your favorite bands to play with these days?**

Jono: We appreciate the Vancouver bands that make the channel crossing to come get lit with us. More and more want to come; I think the word's getting out that the island is tits.

**AU: Were you scared when Arnold and Dudley almost got raped that time on Different Strokes?**

Jono: I was impressed how Mr. Carlson could run WKRP and his own bike shop AND rape small colored boys, all in a day's work. I would be pressed for time.

**AU: Who is the biggest fuck up in the cobes?**

Jono: We all have our moments. We are all hella spazzes.

**AU: Do you guys have anything coming out in the way of recordings?**



Jono: Got an EP available right now, but the full length will be out in the new year; just mixing the final four rippers. We're also teaming up with Phillips Brewing Company for their Showcase band for January. We'll have three songs available for free download inside the Showcase 12 pack... that's fuckin cool.

**AU: Favorite Halen album with ROTH?**

Jono: Right now, it's "Women and Children 1st".

**AU: Favorite movies?**

Jono: "Dogs of War", "Fast times", "Weird Science", "Wild Life", "The Longest Day"... I like party movies and war movies. A party war movie, or a war party movie would be awesome. "Apocalypse Now" is pretty much a war party movie isn't it?

**AU: What are your favorite bands, period?**

Jono: Right now, I'm digging The Bronx still. They've got some great music out. Talented mofos.

**AU: Is it true your name is a reference for someone sticking their fist into another person's anus, or is it a Steve McQueen movie?**

Jono: I tell my mom it's Steve McQueen's final movie, the one he was working on when he died. But it's really the cobra like position the hand takes moments before fisting. Go Head try it... see... Ssssssssssss just like a cobra.

**AU: Can you guys get me some drugs?**

Jono: Sure gimme 100 bux, I'll meet you back here in.....

www.myspace.com/startwiththecobra

## The people in the pit.

By: denis maille

For the year-end issue I wanted to take a look back at the year of shows that was, and what better way to do it than to interview the people who were there, the people supporting their local scene, the people in the pit. There's nothing better than people who show up to shows to dance and have a good time, the local scene thrives on them, and these are a few of those people.



### Zoe

**AU: Who are you and what are you best known for?**

Zoe: I am Zoe, best known for being a lush

**AU: What was the best show you saw this year?**

Z: Bouncing Souls was a rowdy good time.

**AU: What's the wildest thing you've seen happen at a show this year?**

Z: The Motley slut-booty short -puke filled adventure that was Wendy Thirteen's birthday party. I don't know about you, but I have no problem getting vomit in my hair for free beer.

**AU: Who is your favourite local band?**

Z: Too many to name, but props to The Winston Campaign for getting on a bill with NOFX in Mexico!

**AU: Any new local talent you're excited about?**

Z: All female punk rockers Joyce Collingwood. They're hotter than your girlfriend and they fucking thrash.

**AU: Any crazy stories from the pit?**

Z: The Vicious Cycles played a set at the El Dorado that ended in a thriving dog pile of twenty kids, all of them wearing jeans, which was more hilarious than words can describe. And to the kid who thought it would be cute to lift up my skirt at The Briggs, I will sucker punch you again. Don't get cute in the pit! I guess this is what happens when you go to The Bourbon.

**AU: Anything the Vancouver scene needs to work on?**

Z: Venues with cheap beer! Where did that "You can piss, smoke and drink in here" sign go? Someone needs to find it a new home.



### Laura

**AU: Who are you and what are you best known for?**

Laura: I'm Laura. Probably known as the girl with the blue hair. I'm also real sweet.

**AU: What was the best show you saw this year?**

L: Propagandhi at The Rickshaw was awesome. Teenage Bottlerocket at The Red Room was a blast; I danced my ass off. The Real McKenzies show at 340 was really fun too.

**AU: What's the wildest thing you've seen happen at a show this year?**

L: When the dude from Cum Soc puked on the crowd numerous times at The Cobalt, that was pretty wild. Grossly disgustingly wild.

**AU: Who is your favourite local band?**

L: The Rebel Spell.

**AU: Any new local talent you're excited about?**

L: The Quiet Kids. They're super catchy and tight. No album out yet, but their live show is wicked.

**AU: What's the worst thing that happened**



## VANCOUVER VENGEANCE

**involving the local scene this year?**

L: The closing of the Cobalt broke my heart. I never thought I could love a bar so much.

**AU: Any crazy stories from the pit?**

L: The guy with the big motorcycle helmet at the Knucklehead show thrashing around in the pit was kinda crazy in a bad way.

**AU: Anything the Vancouver scene needs to work on?**

L: More enthusiasm would be nice! Dance, or tap your foot. Don't just stand there. It's a music show, not a boring fashion show!

### Monkeyman

**AU: Who are you and what are you best known for?**

Monkeyman: Monkeyman is known for being all hands.

**AU: What was the best show you saw this year?**

M: Bison took over the Biltmore.

**AU: Who is your favourite local band?**

M: Jaws, No Horses, Pride Tiger, Spreadeagle, the hits and Scabs. Apparently all my favourite local bands called it quits this year.

**AU: Any new local talent you're excited about?**

M: Bogus Tokus, Congress, Unfun, Timecopz. There's a ton of new local talent to get excited about.

**AU: Crazy stories from the pit?**

M: When I think about a bunch of sweaty dudes rubbing up against each other, 'crazy' isn't the first word that comes to mind.

**AU: Anything the Vancouver scene needs to work on?**

M: Being on time for a show. I've seen so many quality openers play to no one.





## The Singular Snipe

By Ryan Dyer

**Absolute Underground - Since you were last interviewed in AU, the band has really taken off – the signing to Nuclear Blast, release of Allegory, cross Canada tours, and now the impending release of your sophomore full length, The Singularity. How has this experience been and what are some of the things the band took from touring on such events as Summer Slaughter as a signed act?**

Brett Duncan - We learned a lot about the big scene, the people in it, and we mostly learned about the music business and how hard bands have to work on the road. It was amazing to share the stage with so many wicked and talented bands, and to learn from them. We also learned that being signed doesn't really change a band, it just gives you more opportunities for people to

hear your music. It also let's you hear kids scream your band's name, although that never happened to us.

**AU - Tell us a little of the recording process involved with the Singularity; was it similar to Allegory's, did you have song ideas ready before you hit the studio?**

BD - The songs were 90% done when we started recording. We even had half the record written when we went on tour last summer, so it made tracking a bit easier this time. Sacha produced and engineered the entire album this time around, and we recorded it quite a bit faster as well. We have a website called [www.brokebands.com](http://www.brokebands.com) and Sacha documented the recording process every step of the way. We did the whole thing in Sacha's studio, except vocals, which were recorded with Grant Howarth again as he was great to work with on Allegory. Sacha spent a lot of hours editing, mixing and mastering this album and it sounds killer. We paid him in cheese and high fives.

## CALGARY CARNAGE

**AU - What type of things did you want to explore on the new album - both musically and lyrically – not seen on Allegory?**

BD - The album is a lot more mature this time around, and a lot more technical, yet still catchy. We really pushed ourselves musically and it shows on the album. The lyrics focus on how we see the world and what we see for the future. Some of the subjects include people getting themselves into enormous debt, people not taking responsibility for their actions, and how fast technology is taking over our lives. Pretty deep topics, as we are deep people.

**AU - Do you have any track set as a first single, or are there plans for a video?**

BD - We'll do a video as soon as we can find our buried treasure. As for a song, we'll pick one when we find our treasure.

**AU - The album will be out as a digipack special limited to 100 copies worldwide, all**

**signed by the band. What will people be getting with this set? Have the preorders hit this mark yet?**

BD - The digipack will include lots of DVD bonus features, including guitar and drum videos, guitar tabs, and bonus tracks not available on the album. There just may be lots of other cool shit too. We have sold most of the digipacks already, so get yours today! DO IT NOW!

**AU - Where will Divinity embark after the album hits the streets?**

BD - We have lots of shows planned for the next year, including tours in the states and Europe. We're looking forward to hitting the road next spring and spreading the divinity name all over the world. Or at least the states and Europe. And Canada of course. Cause we live here.

[www.myspace.com/divinitymetal](http://www.myspace.com/divinitymetal)

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## PERMANENT RECORD TATTOO

### interview with owner and artist James Gossier.

by Dustin Jak

**Absolute Underground: What style of tattooing are you best known for?**

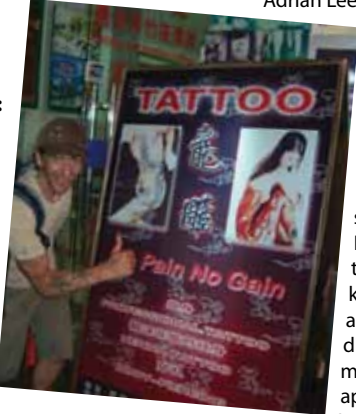
James Gossier: I'd say I'm probably best known for realism, either color or black and grey.

**AU: Where did you see your first tattoos and when?**

JG: When a friend started getting them, we were around 15 or 16; back in the days before every high school kid had them. At the time I thought he was crazy.

**AU: Who did you apprentice under?**

JG: I apprenticed under Rob Forest back in the early eighties. He had a shop out in the Okanagan Valley; that's where I got my start.



**AU: Who are some of your biggest inspirations in tattooing?**

JG: I'm most inspired by the work of guys like Adrian Lee, Nikko Hurtado, James Tex, Marina Storme, and Robert Hernandez.

**AU: What makes your shop unique?**

JG: I guess it comes down to the people that work here, and their unique artistic styles. Namely myself and my pal Von. It's been eight years since I began my apprenticeship, and I've worked at a number of different tattoo studios, and gained valuable knowledge from a lot of talented artists. Now it's time for me to roll the dice. Working for myself has given me a whole new level of caring and appreciation for what I get to do for a living.

**AU: What made you decide upon the location?**

JG: I've always liked the feel of Victoria's Quadra Street Village. It's got a really eclectic mix of businesses and ethnicities, plus it's got a cool old movie theatre dating back to the 1940's just down the street.

**AU: Are you worried about the amount of shops opening up now?**

JG: If a guy wants to work for himself, there really is no choice but to throw your hat into the ring and take your chances. I've spent most of my life working to be a better artist, so I feel it's worth the risk.

**AU: What tattoo would you do for free just to fuckin' do it?**

JG: I really want to do some nautical themed tattoos, like a Spanish Galleon in stormy seas, a lighthouse scene, Popeye.

**AU: What pays your bills?**

JG: Hopefully it's gonna be nautical themed backpieces. Tattoos, both big and small. That and a whole lot of drawing pay my bills.

**AU: What are you most proud of in regards to your shop?**

JG: Well I'm most proud of the fact that I finally did it. I finally have my own tattoo studio. I'm going to make it as good as I possibly can.

**AU: How would you describe your shop's style?**

JG: I'd say it's got a lot of "dream treehouse" feel. Like that clubhouse you always wished you could have with your best buds when you were ten.

**AU: What do you listen to in your spare time?**

JG: Mostly older stuff like Hendrix, Doors, Zeppelin, Skynard.

## INK SLINGERS

**AU: What types of movies do you like?**

JG: Anything featuring cars, sex, explosions and robots. Real think-pieces.

**AU: What do you want the readers to know about your shop?**

JG: It's a genuinely comfortable place to spend some time getting great artwork. Plus we have free Donkey Kong!

**AU: Any advice for young up and cummers?**

JG: Do everyone a favor and learn the fundamentals of drawing and painting before you tattoo.

**AU: What's the craziest request for a tattoo you have ever gotten?**

JG: A Manson family chest piece, complete with multiple portraits, writing in blood, signatures, and family banners. Seriously.

**AU: What do you want the readers to know about you as a Tattooist?**

JG: I'm an artist first.

**AU: Any other interesting comments about you or your shop?**

JG: I'm a robot. Our shop has robots.



**DATALINK**  
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| DEC 12 | <b>HELLRAZER</b>                           | DEC 19 | <b>JOSEPH BLOOD &amp; THE BLUETICK HOUN'DOGS THE COLLAPSE</b> | JAN 16 | <b>BACK ALLEY BOOZERS</b> |
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# CALGARY BABECORE 2010 Calendar

By StEvil

Wouldn't it be cool if a bunch of the hottest babes in Calgary's heavy music scene got together and decided to collaborate their various talents and attributes to produce a sexy calendar to sell for cancer research? Fuckin' right it would! And the ladies of The Calgary Babecore have done just that. This year marks the release of the third annual Babecore calendar. With a team that includes coordinators, photographers, hair & make-up artists, clothing designers, graphic designers, and sexy Babecore babes, they have produced a sleek and professional work of art. All for a good cause, and a good time.

Kristin Semchuk brings a sexy and empowered female presence to the blistering hardcore of the band BDFM, and as coordinator of the calendar project, she has infused it with the same energy. She's also drop-dead gorgeous, so it was with great pleasure Absolute Underground spoke to her about the Babecore Calendar.

**Absolute Underground: So how did this all come about?**

Kristin: I thought it would be fun to do, since all the necessary resources were at hand; hot chicks, designers, photographers and so on. I ran the idea past some of the ladies in the Calgary Beer Core, and it grew from there.

**AU: What does take it to be a Babecore babe?**

Kristin: There is no physical criteria – it comes down to what they offer the calendar (other than a pair of tits). For



instance, Katie Bevan, one of the babes, is currently putting together a Babecore website and handles the calendar sales from The Distillery all year long. Holly Yuzwa provides us with shoot locations – we are a team and everyone contributes something special.

**AU: These are beautiful shots – amazing composition, set-design, and great costumes. You've obviously got some talented professionals involved.**



Kristin: Demonika of Demonika Clothing (and CBC Babe of the year 2009) makes or helps alter all of the clothing. Miss Rocket Siobhan (Toxic Cabaret Photography) and Sonya Erb are the photographers. They have been with us since day one. Then Colin "Elorps" McCulloch gets his graphic designer hands on them and it all comes together. The theme this year is basically "Babecore Does Beer Core". Each of the ladies chose their favorite Beer Core band to represent via photo.

**AU: These shots definitely turn the conventional notion of "pin-up girl" art on its head. What is sexiness to you?**

Kristin: Confidence is sexy. At the risk of sounding like a Dove commercial, anorexic and airbrushed is not sexy; I find it very interesting that we worship these unattainable ideals. What makes a person sexy is their mind, who they are as a person and what they do to make themselves stand out. This calendar is a Fuck You to the cookie cutter approach; we are real women and we are sexy!

**AU: No argument here! What is the goal this year for the calendar?**

Kristin: All proceeds go to The Alberta Cancer Foundation, and we hope to exceed funds raised in previous years. We also want to find more genuine sponsors to eliminate the overhead. When finished, babecore.com will answer all your burning questions. The official calendar release party is at The Distillery on Dec 5th.

**AU: Well, best of luck, and thanks for taking the time to fill us in on this great project.**

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Calgarybabecore.com  
Demonika.ca



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## BEST OF 2009



**Best Punk Album of the Year:**  
NOFX: COASTER

**Best Hardcore Album of the Year:**  
BDFM: GET DRUNK OR DIE TRYING

**Best Metal Album of the Year:**  
GWAR: LUST IN SPACE

**Shittiest Album of the Year:**  
THAT NEW CREED CD

**Best Live show of the Year:**  
GWAR W/ THREE INCHES OF BLOOD IN SAN DIEGO

**Best Movie of the Year:**  
THE HANGOVER

**Best Horror Movie of the Year:**  
ZOMBIELAND

**Best tattooist you know:**  
DENNIS AT FLAMEJOB

**Best skater you know:**  
CHI PIG

**Best Event/Party of the Year:**  
THE COBALT

**Shock of the Year:**  
THE COBALT CLOSING

**Douche of the Year:**  
UNCLE ANUS

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
THE SAHOTAS

**What do you really think about Absolute Underground?**  
IF I READ IT I WOULD PROBABLY ENJOY IT

**Who are you and what are you best known for?**  
Adam Goatlord. I'm the guy who works on the Absolute Underground website, best known for skating straight down Johnson street hill in Coquitlam drinking a beer and

smoking a cigarette without wiping out.

**Favorite Local Band:**  
In Vancouver The Golars and in Victoria the Keg Killers

**Best Punk Album of the Year:**  
Rudimentary Peni - No More Pain

**Best Hardcore Album of the Year:**  
Accused - The Curse of Martha Splatterhead

**Best Metal Album of the Year:**  
Proclamation - "Execration of Cruel Bestiality" and Archgoat - "The Light-Devouring Darkness"

**Shittiest Album of the Year:**  
If it's not in my collection then it's shit!

**Best Live show of the Year:**  
The mighty Morbosidad live at The Cobalt - Morbos Meta!!!!!!!

**What do you really think about Absolute Underground?**  
Not enough Gwar interviews : )

**Douche of the Year:**  
Vancouver cops, Gordon Campbell

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
Vancouver Olympics

**What do you really think about Absolute Underground?**  
Not enough Gwar interviews : )

**Who are you and what are you best known for?**  
I'm Collin Wo and im best known for having long majestic hair... and playing guitar in Sacred Ally.

**Favorite Local Band:**  
My new solo project Orphan Hammer. www.myspace.com/orphanhammer.(I know, shameless plug)

**Best Metal Album of the Year:**  
Primal Fear 16.6 (before the devils knows youre dead)

**Shittiest Album of the Year:**  
The Nickelback cd I use to wipe my smelly ass with everyday

**Best Live show of the Year:**  
Noctis 3 Festival was pretty rad

**Best Movie of the Year:**  
Anal Buffet

**Who are you and what are you best known for?**  
Jaks Skate comp

**Best Movie of the Year:**  
Iron Maiden: Flight 666

**Best Horror Movie of the Year:**  
Drag Me to Hell

**Best New Band in your local scene:**  
R.O.C., Excavator, Necroholocaust

**Best tattooist you know:**  
Jamer and Dustin Schwam

**Best skater you know:**  
Leif Brooke rips it up, unless he's hung over then he sucks like me.

**Best Event/Party of the Year:**  
Okanagan Fest-of-Ale in April. Mission

to Mission (Mission Springs Brewery) - free food and beer. Morbosidad after party at my house. Jaks China Creek Skate Comp

**Shock of the Year:**  
Michael Jackson dying

**Douche of the Year:**  
Vancouver cops, Gordon Campbell

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
Vancouver Olympics

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Continued on page 17

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## Noel Noir. Holiday shows in Quebec

So winter is coming and most Montrealers start getting a little uptight and ready to hibernate for the next six months. So far so good, weather wise. Above average temperatures and warm fronts but how long before the snow, eh? The only big to do that we can see thus far, (with the exception of a handful of local shows) would be the Heavy MTL X-Mas show featuring VOIVOD! Let's see who else is playing around the holidays? Right, Brutal Truth and Municipal Waste @ Foufs, Arch Enemy with legendary thrash icons Exodus along with openers Arsis @ Club Soda. Oh yeah, here's a weird line-up, The Dillinger Escape Plan opening for Thursday? I don't get that one but whatever. So what else? Well, rock n' roll monoliths' Priestess have launched a new album and it kicks major butthole. Be sure to check out a sample or two at: [www.myspace.com/priestessband](http://www.myspace.com/priestessband) or [www.priestessband.com](http://www.priestessband.com). Also in the new album department is The Great Sabatini's new CD and it's killer! A little more worked on than the last one. The Sabs are launching the album this November 28th at the new Katakombes (1635 St-Laurent - [www.myspace.com/katakombes](http://www.myspace.com/katakombes)) along with some local bands, mine being one of them (Squalor). Check their new tunes at: [www.myspace.com/thegreatsabatin](http://www.myspace.com/thegreatsabatin).



really dug that), to nonchalantly threatening some folk with my machete and blowing the house P.A. Ahhhh! Good fun. In other news, local stoner metalheads, Barn Burner ([www.myspace.com/theinfamousbarnburner](http://www.myspace.com/theinfamousbarnburner)) got signed to Metal Blade. Now a bit of bad news, the venue Le Medley ([www.medley.ca](http://www.medley.ca)), host to most or all major metal shows here in Montreal, announced

this month that they'll be closing their doors for good at the end of this year. First the Spectrum, now Le Medley. Le Medley was home to most BCI shows. What will become of the space, no one knows for sure yet. On another note, Drool from Random Killing, who's made Montreal his home now for at least the last five or so years, will be a permanent fixture here at the SOUND. He'll be renting a

portion of the back store for a studio for his art. I guess he needs a little retreat from the family. Not to mention the bun in the oven and it's due in a matter of weeks. Congrats guys! So it looks like Soundcentral is slowly becoming a cross between an old age home for geriatric punks and the Flintstone's moose lodge.

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**“Esteem driven engine”**

**Interview with: Greg Rekus**

**– Vocals & Guitar**

By: Pauly Hardcore

**Greg Rekus** vocal guitar

**Marty LaFreniere** vocal guitar

**Steve Jowsey** vocal drum

**Stevo Nelson** Bass

**Absolute Underground:**  
We spoke earlier and you mentioned a “rough year or so” - what’s been going on in HFD land?

Greg Rekus: We did our first music video this year and then a bit more than a month of touring in Canada and a bit more than a month in Europe as well. June 1 - reality kinda hit me in the face and we got the bill for all the fun we’ve been having the last few years. I’ve been back at work ever since and it sucks! The new record just isn’t selling. I guess this is kinda across the board in the music industry so I can’t cry too much.

**AU: With the loss of numerous venues in ‘peg - how do you see the scene affected?**

Greg: As long as the Albert is still around it will be fine. Ultimately we will always find some kinda a place to play. On our first Euro tour one show was

in a bomb shelter in Slovenia.

**AU: How does the European scene compare to North America?**

Greg: There are a lot more people in Europe so it’s easier to find a crowd. Being a band from Canada you also get a bit more interest. I like the food the best I think. And the highways. It’s fuckin expensive to drive on them cuz of all the tolls but everyone is doing like 130 or faster.

**AU: Any hilarious/scary stories from Europe?**

Greg: We got pulled over by the police in the Ukraine and had to bribe them 100 euro to let us go. We then got pulled over again by different cops the next day and have to give them something like 50 euro and a bunch of Ukraine bucks to let us go. We slept in a bomb shelter in Slovenia one night on an off day when we had nowhere to go. I got naked and ran onto the stage during the last show of the tour with Rentokill



during their set and piggy backed everyone in the band then jumped into the crowd. We played Halloween at an Italian squat and I got super drunk and ended up making out with an old Italian lady. We broke down at the Spanish French boarder and fixed a hose on the van with a socket which held the rest of the tour. We saw the Eiffel tower, once. We almost got into a fight with a drunk French guy. We did get into a fight with a drunk Belgian guy. We got super high in Amsterdam and went to the sex museum. We got lost in Romania. We bought 12, 000 bucks in gas in Hungary. We snuck into the UK as tourists. We ate bread and cheese for weeks at a time. We opened for comeback kid and I got too drunk and tried to fight Marty then slept in the van in the sitting up position for 12 hours

or so. If the next tour left tomorrow I would drop everything!

**AU: What’s the story behind the name?**

Greg: There are a few. My fave is someone thought it was the high five drive. If you high fived someone but had to drive there to do it that would be the high five drive. Before Stevo our bass player joined the band he thought it was a reference to 5th gear on a transmission. Really I just thought it sounded cool.

**AU: What is the writing process like for the band?**

Greg: Sometimes Marty or I write a song and bring it to practice and hack at it till it sounds good. Lately we have just been jamming random shit then once we have about 10 parts together we put words to it. Sometimes we bang our heads against the wall till some music falls out and see if we can make a song out of that. Sometimes we just have a smoke and see what happens.

**AU: How many albums have you put out and tell us of your latest, Fullblast. Do you have label support?**

Greg: We have three albums out right now and we are on three labels in Europe. Fond of life in Germany and UK, No reason in Italy and Bad mood in Switzerland! They are all super awesome and have great bands on the rosters! Our new one, well It’s super fucking good! It’s not the end all and be all of alternative music or the most mathy thing this side of choke or the most metal next to maiden, but i really like it and am really proud of it. It has a lot of personal shit we have gone through since the last record and i really boned up on guitar playing to try to blow the other records we did out of the water.

**AU: Any new material in the works?**

Greg: Yeah we have been demoing some new stuff. Nothing ready to release or anything, just getting some ideas down so we can keep writing new stuff. The goal is to have 20 songs ready for the new record and keep only the best of the best.

## WRETCHED WINNIPEG

**AU: Last I saw you in Victoria you pulled out a Maiden cover, the Trooper I believe - do you see parallels between metal and punk rock?**

Greg: I listened to a lot of Strung Out when I was younger and they had a lot of metal riffs going so that might be where some of that came from. Our old bass player was a bit of a metal head too. Both genres have loud guitars. Don’t need to be Frank Sinatra in either genres to be the singer. Both have had super dumb clothing and hair styles associated with the music. Both seem to keep certain people hooked on the type of music far after it goes out of style (yours truly). So i guess they are the same in a few ways.

**AU: Upcoming touring plans?**

Greg: We got invited for six shows in the states over the New Year so I’m super fuckin pumped for that! We plan to be back in Europe in April and will bring a band over to Canada for either march or may. Hell maybe both!

**AU: What bands from ‘peg should we keep an eye on?**

Greg: Kids On Fire, The City Champs, Hope Atlantic, Sights And Sounds

**AU: How has the advent of the technological age [downloads, mspace etc] helped/ hindered you?**

Greg: Both. We have never had so many fans as we do today and we have never made so little money as we do today. It’s kinda a double edged sword. Some days 100, 000 plays on mspace make you feel like you are a great band, other days you might as well be stuffing steam into sacks at the fuck all factory.

**AU: Last words for the hellions?**

Greg: Excited about 2010. We want to come to the west coast again so come see us play. Our new stuff is super fun to play and can’t wait to do another record!

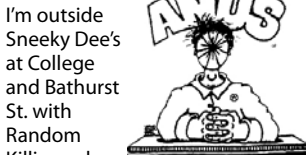
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### RANDOM KILLING

by Uncle Anus



I’m outside Sneaky Dee’s at College and Bathurst St. with Random Killing, who are playing the Armed and Hammered 20th Anniversary show tonight. Unfortunately we are empty handed as our drinks are inside and we are outside smoking a variety of good stuff. After almost 25 years of their own, this band can be tough to get together these days as singer Drool now lives in Montreal.

**Absolute Underground: Hey guys, thanx for your time.**

Drool: Hey. Before we start this, can we trade joints? I want a taste of that hash.

Mudd: None for me thanks, I’m driving.

Everyone: Booooo!

**AU: 25 Years. Wow.**

Drool: And we’ve never stopped.

**AU: Will you ever?**

Drool: Why would we?

Rusty Talent: It just feels too

good to stop.

Mudd: I think Drool actually ‘needs’ this band. Without some kind of primal screaming outlet of frustration he would be...

Drool: Dead or in Jail. I’m serious. If I hadn’t been screaming into a microphone once a week for the last 20 years I would most likely be one or the other.

**AU: Are there any new RK recordings in the works?**

Mudd: Ha-ha-ha! Is that a joke?

Rusty Talent: Yeah, we’ve been working on it for a while now.

Drool: But that’s punk rock!

Rusty Talent: Everything is finished except the guitar tracks.

Drool: Always waiting for the guitar tracks!

Mudd: Waiting like 2.5 years!

Rusty Talent: Fuck Off!

**AU: Random Killing has not toured the west coast since the early 90’s. Do you have something against playing in the west?**

Drool: Nah, we loved it out west. It just seems too hard to get good shows between here and there to make it.

Rusty Talent: Too hard?

Mudd: More like too lazy!

Drool: If someone wanted to book shows for us on the west coast we would be all over it like a fat guy on a Smartie!

**AU: What is Random Killing’s favourite place to play?**

Everyone: Sneaky Dee’s.

Drool: We have a lot of good memories connecting us to this bar. We actually played Armed and Hammered’s last show here; we played with Dirty Bird at Sneaky Dee’s final show.

**AU: And then you opened the bar when they started doing live shows again.**

Mudd: Yup, and we played that show too!

Drool: Don’t forget that we played the 3-Tards final show a couple weeks ago here too!

**AU: You mean a couple MONTHS ago?**

Rusty Talent: Yeah, and it was at the Cathedral, not here.

Drool: Ah Fuck. See what you do to us when you smoke us up before making us think?

**AU: What I do to you? You rolled one too!**

Drool: Yeah, but your presence always has us smoking!

**AU: Speaking of which, where is the best place in the world to smoke pot?**

Mudd: Well Drool has been to Europe.

Drool: Fuck, I’ve smoked all over this fuckin’ world!

**AU: This whole world has gone insane!**

Drool: Exactly! Anyways, saying Amsterdam has the best smoke in the world is so cliché these days. So I am going to say Spain had some of the best hash in

the world.

**AU: How does the hash we are smoking tonight compare?**

Drool: Actually, this is pretty fucking good too!

(Everyone laughs in agreement)

**AU: What would you like to say to Absolute Underground readers across Canada who may read this?**

Drool: Don’t listen to a fuckin’ word anyone says about you behind your back. If they can’t say it to your face, it doesn’t fuckin’ matter.

Mudd: Just don’t stop enjoying live music.

Rusty Talent: Don’t trust anyone over the age of...

Mudd: Ahem!

**AU: Forty now?**

Rusty Talent: How old are you now Mudd?

Mudd: I tell you what, I’m younger than Steve Goof and that’s all I’m gonna say!

Drool: Not by much though!

**AU: So what’s new with Random Killing in old age?**

Mudd: He’s having a kid! (Pointing at Drool)

Rusty Talent: That’s a scary thought actually!

Some random drunk just coming too under the ATM: You don’t look pregnant!

Drool: I’ll show you my sympathy hump for a drink! Seriously though, I’m very proud of becoming a father.

**AU: Yeah, how did that happen anyways? We all know the classic RK hit ‘Kicked in the Nuts’!**

Drool: While most guys turn who turn 40 buy a fast car, I

decided

to get

someone

pregnant!

**AU: Other than Random Killing, what should people be listening to?**

Mudd: I listen to a lot of Reggae lately.

Rusty Talent: I listen to Robbo cry about not smoking behind his drum kit in clubs. But I wouldn’t suggest anyone else listening to him. You’re better off just sticking to punk rock.

Drool: You want to see someone real? He’s fucked up... but he is totally real. I saw Daniel Johnston play the other night and it was fuckin’ great. Everyone should check him out.

**AU: Any last words?**

Drool: Just fuckin’ do it.

Mudd: Peace man!

Everyone: Peace?

Mudd: Yeah man! Never trust an old hippy!

**AU: You’re stoned.**

Mudd: Totally!

There is enough second hand smoke hanging around this street corner to keep me from driving for at least a few hours!

Rusty Talent: Hey! Don’t be too stoned and forget to tell them about our website!

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The Devious Dead Open Air Event Army is currently recruiting all things rotten that want to kick aZz and be a part of metal history! With a variety of genres being represented during the event, 2010 promises to be a scorcher.


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Krissi Steele



Drop the Hammer

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Wiping sweat from the lens of my camera reminds me of the first show I went to this year. I can't remember which indie band was blasting the shit out of my hearing, but I do remember thinking: "Fuck, these guys are too good to be playing this shit hole." LOL

Yeah, there is a fuck-wad of good indie bands out there, these days.


With so many enthusiastic music lovers turning into show promoters; it is a lot easier to see a good, local Indie band, even when you're under age. It is encouraging to see new people jumping into this uncharted territory.....the indie scene.

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JAN 23 TIM VAUGHN & GUESTS

JAN 29 DEAN SELENA & GUESTS


thank you

for another awesome year!

we hope you have a safe holiday season

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AU: Can we expect to see you guys come through Canada in support of the new album?




Kurt: Yeah, I hope so but unfortunately it has always been such a pain in the ass. We have all kinds of border horror stories and I don't know why but Canada and England are the two hardest places for Americans to go. So we get taxed on ALL our merch for the whole tour...so we have to spend so much just to get over it's really not worth it and it's unfortunate because some of our greatest shows have been here.

AU: What have been some of your favorite places to play?

Kurt: One of my favorites in Canada was in Montreal on St. Catherine street called Salle deluxe, it was just a really dingy, grimy DIY punk club, I think it was under a record store in the basement and I mean the way it was laid out was awesome, there was the bar/balcony behind you but it was so low peoples feet were at chest level on the stage so you have this crowd of people in front of you & then ¾ wrapped around you there's people hanging off the stage, so I mean, you feel like you are playing in Thunderdome or something, it was just pure chaos! And Montreal truly was a home away from home for us throughout the history of the band; our bassist went to McGill University so we actually spent a lot of time there. Aside from that, we really enjoy going out to Japan & Australia because they are really different from what we're accustomed to. Playing in the US just seems like work whereas when we go to Asia or something, it is really about the travel and adventure...We'll be hitting New Zealand for the first time ever this year & we're pretty excited.

AU: Parting Shots?

Kurt: Buuurp!!! Thanks dude, much appreciated!



CONVERGE "the dark horse rides tonight"

Interview with: Kurt Ballou

By: Pauly Hardcore

In late 2009 Salem Massachusetts' Converge released *Axe to Fall*, a highly touted & anticipated addition to their already staggering impressive back catalog. They also hit the road w/ pals Mastodon & Dethklok where I got the chance to hash out what's been going on in their universe with guitarist & co-founding member Kurt Ballou.

Absolute Underground: What can we be expecting from your new album, *Axe to Fall*?

Kurt: Well, it is really a guitar driven record, more than what we've done in the past. Every time with a new record we're trying to create something that is artistically fulfilling to us & something we'd enjoy listening to. We're not trying to create something that is marketable.

AU: Artistically, is Jacob responsible for most everything?

Kurt: Yeah, you know we try and keep those aspects of the band internal. So not just the album artwork, but the print ads or the bulk of the t shirts, online banners & basically everything that has to do with the visual side of the band Jake does ; it's just the aesthetic that we are used to and you know, who better to know the artistic side of the band then a member. We got our start in the DIY hardcore scene not really with a desire to do that, but out of necessity because you know, nobody else was gonna do it for us. Even with this tour you know, everyone is in a bus – we're in a Van, that's just how we feel comfortable. Like with our videos in the past, something that's beyond our realm of expertise we've had to get other people to make them, and you know, we sit back and say "how does this video represent the band" and I mean they've been okay, but it's just not us & it doesn't because it is someone else's interpretation of us. That's why we like to keep everything internal.

AU: How did you guys approach the writing process this time around?

Kurt: Well you know, there's always no rules – some of the songs were born 5 years ago just jamming with the Cave In guys, some are real spontaneous you know right before we went into the studio, some are just riffs I've been dwelling on for months, some evolve out of a drum beat, or even a lyric. You know with a lot of metallic hardcore bands it winds up just being a "riff soup" in the key of open C or open D, whatever they tune to & the way the songs develop is chronological to the construction of the riff, as opposed to just crafting a good song. We always try and keep the process for each song a little different, so that each song sort of exists in & of itself.

AU: I heard you had approached Epitaph/ Anti in regards to the title of a new album, I believe it was what became *No Heroes* but you brought them the title "the Rapist"

Kurt: Haha yeah, funny thing about that – it was an old Saturday night live sketch w/ Sean Connery doing a spoof on Jeopardy where the category was "therapist" but he kept saying Rapist., so I think we were just fucking around with them & they believed us so we sort of ran with it for a little bit, but we would never call a record that.

AU: Fans tend to cling to certain records & although all your records should be appreciated for what they are, uncompromising & sincere, some tend to just stand out & for me, re-discovering *Jane Doe* & how amazing it is makes me think it was under appreciated for its time as it is truly a near flawless record.

Kurt: Thank-you so much, wow. You know that's

the first record that we did that we were all really proud of. You know even though we were a band for about 10 years before we did that record it was the formative years, learning to play our instruments together etc and our output prior to that had glimmers of goodness but I think starting with that record is when we actually became a good band so for us, you know - that was a landmark record and where we sort of came into our own. You know I can appreciate that fans sort of hold onto that record more so than our others, but as an artist and musician, I don't want to be stuck in 2001 for the rest of my life so we're always trying to create new music & go other places we haven't gone before while still maintaining the essence that is Converge.

AU: Your live performances are renowned for being chaotic & intense, is it a cathartic experience?

Kurt: Oh definitely! We're driven to play & create music. We don't have a planned out theatrical presentation or anything like that; we just have a need to express ourselves. There's angst & aggression & you know, life can be hard and you need some kind of outlet for that otherwise you start finding unhealthy & inappropriate outlets & performing is ours, we don't need to seek out other means to escape.

AU: So you own your own studio?

Kurt: Yeah it's what I do professionally. We've recorded our last few albums there. I'm currently recording the new Trap Them album, which is so good by the way – they have the former drummer for Coliseum with them right now and they are really coming into their own. I recorded Nate's other band, Doom Riders' new album recently which is really rad – it's almost like a pop record, but you know, heavy. I've also recorded Torche, Genghis Tron, Disfear, Lewd Acts...

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Continued from page 9

**Best Horror Movie of the Year:**  
1 guy 1 cup honorable mention: Hatchet vs. Genital

**Best New Band in your local scene:**  
Hrom

**Best tattooist you know:**  
My main man Jason Dionne

**Best local Artist deserving of more recognition:**  
That chick that does enema art

**Best Event/Party of the Year:**  
Anything Demonika puts on

**Shock of the Year:**  
Octomom!

**Douche of the Year:**  
Kanye West

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
Calgary council

**What do you really think about Absolute Underground?**  
Metal, chicks, weed, and gore...very nice!

**Who are you and what are you best known for?**  
Sean Farren. Bass and vocals in death metal band Mark Of Cain and powerviolence band Gummers.

**Favorite Local Band:**  
I hope Red Deer counts because I'm going to say Kali. Those guys play some sweet powerviolence.

**Best Punk Album of the Year:**  
Deadneck Fury - Still Fighting.

**Best Hardcore Album of the Year:**  
A Textbook Tragedy - Intimidator or Shai Hulud - Misanthropy Pure.

**Best Metal Album of the Year:**  
Magrudergrind! and Mumakil - Behold The Failure.

**Shittiest Album of the Year**  
I'm going to say Earhate - Shittiest Deal because it has "Shittiest" right in the title. Get it?

**Best Live show of the Year:**  
Kali, Maus, Cope and Creeper at The New Black.

**Best Movie of the Year:**  
Dead Snow.

**Best Horror Movie of the Year:**  
Drag Me To Hell.

**Best New Band in your local scene:**  
Kataplexis! Holy shit these guys know how to play deathgrind. So much energy in their live shows it's fucking ridiculous.

**Best tattooist you know:**  
James @ Bushido or Ryan Gagne @ Sacred Balance. super nice guys.

**Best skater you know:**  
I don't know any skaters. So I'm going to say Jesus. I'm sure that guy can fuck some shit up on a skateboard.

**Best local Artist deserving of more recognition:**  
Kristin Nicole. So much talent.

**Best Event/Party of the Year:**  
Kylie Minoise at Discord. I don't party much but this guy blew me away with his noise performance when he came through town from Scotland.

**Douche of the Year:**  
That "I hope they serve beer in hell" guy I guess. I don't know, I'm seriously behind on douchebag culture. Who's the reigning douchebag king?

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
Well there was this one time I stuck my dick in a chicken. Ohhh that doesn't say cluckerfuck? well shit...

**What do you really think about Absolute Underground?**  
I think Absolute Underground is awesome. It's sweet to have something that focuses on this shit in our neighbourhood. I've found out about some sweet things coming through or out of my town from here. Keep up the good work!

**Who are you and what are you best known for?**  
Dustin Jak. Skateboarder, father, tattooist, musician, vandal.

**Favorite Local Band that everyone should know about:**  
Start With The Cobra / Zap Straps

**Best Punk Album of the Year:**  
New Slayer

**Best Hardcore Album of the Year:**  
New Slayer

**Best Metal Album of the Year:**  
New Slayer

**Shittiest Album of the Year:**  
Teagan and Sara

**Best Live show of the Year:**  
Micheal Schenker Group @ Element. Destruction @ Sugar.

**Best Movie of the Year:**  
Bassist from Pearl Jam getting beat by Gangsters in LA

**Best Horror Movie of the Year:**  
Last House on the Left

**Best New Band in your local scene:**  
Frostbacks

**Best skater you know:**  
Blind Mark (drops in Vic west , grinds and rocks!)

**Shock of the Year:**  
Willy Jak quitting weed

**Douche of the Year:**  
Willy Jak for quitting weed

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
Keg Killers getting back together

**What do you really think about Absolute Underground?**  
Good for lighting fires, rolling huge joints, huge snort bills, ass wipe,

underwear, shoe insoles, hamster cage flooring, paper mache', paper airplanes, paper shanks , pirate hats, and its not bad to read now and then.

**Who are you and what are you best known for?**  
Pauly Hardcore brings the rage - I'm also a board member of the VIHC Society [Van Isle Hardcore Punk] who put on the VIHC Fest each year.

**Favorite Local Bands that everyone should know about:**  
PROMISES - No Eulogy - Unleash the

Archers - Archon Legion  
Set Foot - DAMAGES - Tempest - Keg Killers - Compound Terror - Bison BC - Black Mountain - Peruke - Haggatha - Mass Grave

**Best Punk Album of the Year:**  
Propagandhi - Supporting Caste

**Best Hardcore Album of the Year:**  
Graf Orlock - Destination Time Today, Coalesce - OX, Lewd Acts - Black Eye Blues, Outbreak - Outbreak

**Best Metal Album of the Year:**  
Barn Burner - Bangers  
Between the Buried & Me - The Great Misdirect  
Converge - Axe to Fall  
Doom Riders - Darkness Comes Alive

**Shittiest Album of the Year:**  
Toss up between Slayer & Death by Stereo's new ones, what the fuck happened?!

**Best Live show of the Year:**  
VIHC Fest 5 - 30+ bands of pure adrenaline @ White Eagle Hall in Vic. Fucked Up @ the Biltmore in Van. Iron Lung & Extortion @ Events Center  
Propagandhi @ the Rickshaw in Van.

**Best Movie of the Year:**  
The Watchmen, Iron Maiden's Flight 666 & Inglorious Basterds

**Best Horror Movie of the Year:**  
Zombieland & Let the Right One In

**Best New Band in your local scene:**  
Promises & No Eulogy

**Best tattooist you know:**  
Dustin "Spencer" Ward & ORY @ URGE Studios in Victoria & Marc Vienneau @ Soul Survivors in Winnipeg

Continued on page 19

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# ARCH ENEMY

## The Root Canal Of All Evil

Interview with: Angela Gossow (vocals)

by Ira Hunter

Assists by Erik Lindholm & Pauly Hardcore

**Absolute Underground: Angela! How are you today?**

Angela: I am good thank you! How are you?

**AU: I apologize I just have to find my**

**questions, one second.**

Angela: No problem (chuckle)

**AU: OK! I've got them here I just have to print them off (muttering to himself "this is so unprofessional") Did your tooth heal up?**

Angela: Yeah I'm fine. I actually broke a tooth off on the Mexico tour. They have a really funny fruit there with really hard pits, hard as stone, but small ones. I bit into this fruit really hard and smashed a tooth. That's what you get when you try new things in assorted places with no dentist around... well not a dentist you really want to see. (laughs)

**AU: It didn't stop the tour did it?**

Angela: No, I mean it was fixed in 3 days. I never have anything happen when I'm at home it always happens when I'm really far away on tour.

**AU: These are some questions my friend Eric helped me write. He's our metal guy but he's in Afghanistan right now, he's in the Navy.**

Angela: Oh no way!

**AU: Yeah we're just hoping he comes back to us. But it's like the Canadian Navy so he's probably just sitting behind a desk. So the new album "The Root Of All Evil" is a selection of songs from throughout Arch Enemy's catalogue which you are re-recording.**

why we have it there on the cover of the album - it's envy and greed, though we mean it to be the root of Arch Enemy.

**AU: Speaking of roots, do you garden at home or on the road?**

Angela: Haha - how do you garden on the road? Do you speak of the cannabis plants on the back of the bus? That's kind of gardening I suppose. Haha. All we do is plant the evil seed of Heavy Metal all over the place.

**AU: So you enjoy a spliff from time to time?**

Angela: Oh absolutely!

**AU: We got to see Carcass at Waken in Germany two years ago and you came out and did a special song. What's the connection with you and Carcass?**

Angela: I'm in love with him; I mean, I'm a huge Carcass fan. I got into Metal in like the 80's & 90's and I got hooked on Carcass. Michael, he is in both bands. The idea kind of came up the day before Wacken. He asked me if I wanted to help him sing the song, because Arch Enemy actually covered it earlier on in our career.

**AU: What music are you listening to these days?**

Angela: I'm an oldschool metalhead, you develop a relationship with the bands you grew up with, so Carcass, Morbid Angel, Obituary... When you're young you have an emotional relationship with these bands, they help you through a lot of hard times. With newer bands I struggle to find that relationship,

I don't know what it is about bands from the 80's and 90's but they had soul in their music. Not like today's bands that just go into the studio with Pro Tools and record some emo vocals over some blast beats.

**AU: What do you do to make those crazy vocals? Were you professionally trained?**

Angela: I just sort of did my own thing for ten years, but then when the band started to get serious I thought maybe I had to develop a vocal routine and training. I learned breathing techniques because I had no clue and was doing it all wrong. Going out on the road for weeks at a time is so hard on you. So I learned the whole abdominal breathing and throat relaxation, but I think the best training I get is by going out there and playing shows.

**AU: What was it like growing up in Germany?**

Angela: Well it was quite Liberal, very Democratic. I almost think equality is more prominent in Germany than it is in the U.S. I grew up like a tomboy, I have two brothers. I was the oldest so I was always shouting at everyone to clean

their rooms. I think that's where I got my loud voice from.

**AU: What was the first Metal album that really made you want to be in a Heavy Metal band?**

Angela: "Reign in Blood" from Slayer!

**AU: Have you played with Slayer?**

Angela: Once or twice. Kerry King will make anybody drink Jagermeister, even me and I hate that stuff.

**AU: Isn't Jager cough medicine in Germany?**

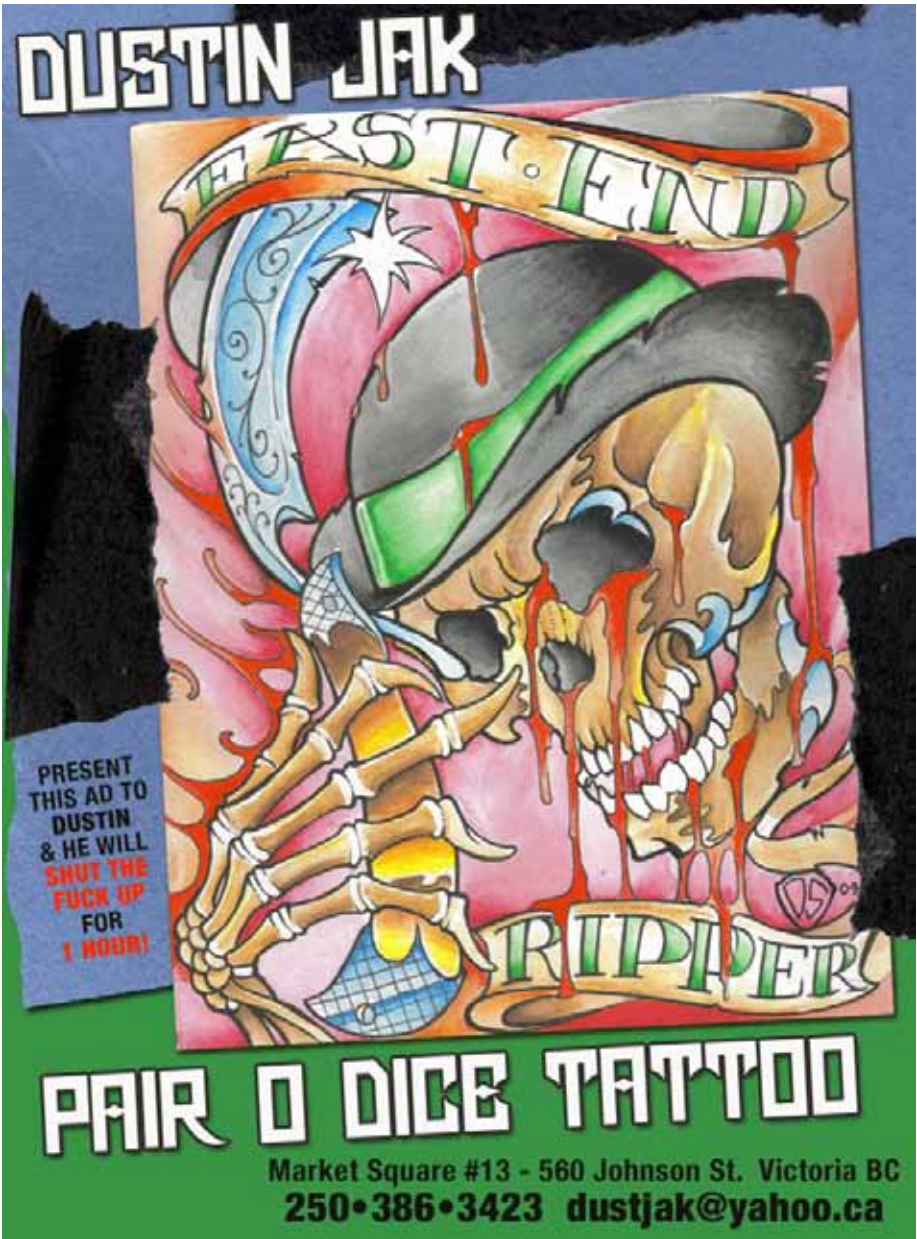
Angela: Yes that's the thing, in Germany it is medicinal - it assists in digestion after eating heavy foods, it is a bit like medicine and nobody there would think of it as a party drink.

**AU: Any final words for Canadian metal fans?**

Angela: Keep up the weed and blast true fucking Metal!

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Continued from page 17

**Best skater you know:**  
Dustin Schwam

**Best Event/Party of the Year:**  
VIHC FEST 5 hands down!

**Shock of the Year:**  
The Montreal Canadiens not winning the Cup in their 100th year & the lack of turnout for VIHC Fest 5.

**Douche of the Year:**  
All the idiots in town who ruined ALL of our all ages venues, leaving us with nowhere to put on shows.

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
Trying to get shows going @ the (insert all ages venue here)

**What do you really think about Absolute Underground?**  
I'm proud to be a part of the best Independent publication in Canada & really excited about AU TV!

**Who are you and what are you best known for?**  
Jeff Tek. Growing the finest, most potent, delectable, medicinal marijuana in the northern hemisphere - possibly the world. With all modesty.

**Favorite Local Band that everyone should know about:**  
Necrotrench.

**Best Punk Album of the Year:**  
Let the Dominoes Fall: Rancid

**Best Hardcore Album of the Year:**  
World Painted Blood - Slayer

**Best Metal Album of the Year:**

The End Game - Megadeth

**Shittiest Album of the Year:**  
Anything by Kanye West, for being a dick to Taylor Swift. (She got him back on SNL)

**Best Live show of the Year:**  
Slayer/Megadeth Canadian Carnage

**Best Movie of the Year:**  
That Old dude who grew into a baby, unButtoning somethin'.

**Best Horror Movie of the Year:**  
Alvin and the Chipmunks.

**Best New Band taking over your local scene:**  
Marnie Mains

**Best tattooist you know:**  
Julio in cell block "H" because he has the piano wire on a walkman motor...

**Best skater you know:**  
Me, cause I never broke my neck, yet! (& I still got all my teeth)

**Best Event/Party of the Year:**  
Every day is like a party when you tend to 49 lovely ladies, sometimes naked! (OK, Mostly Naked!)

**Shock of the Year:**  
Lady Ga Ga

**Douche of the Year:**  
The word Douche for being used over 79 times this year on prime-time television, which becomes increasingly funnier in conjunction with the innocuous word Bag. (also See #6)

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
The International Olympic Committee, for unreasonable demands & for disallowing Women's Ski Jumping, and being a general (see last question).

**What do you really think about Absolute Underground?**  
The truth, you can't handle the truth! OK, here it is - straight: Lots of men and women suffer and sweat to bring you the metal and the shows we love. Absolute Underground is a vessel, or better-yet, a vehicle for bringing the punk, hardcore, and metal worlds together. If you print it they will COME! Peace, Metal & Buds.

**Who are you and what are you best known for?**  
My name is Drool and I cannot answer the question on the grounds that it may incriminate me...

**Favorite Local Band that everyone should know about:**  
In Tzero the Groopies, in Mtl, Truth or Scare

**Best Punk Album of the Year:**  
Dunno... but I am quickly wearing out my Have a beer with Fear album

**Best Hardcore Album of the Year:**  
Converge Axe to Fall

**Best Metal Album of the Year:**  
Priestess' new album on Indica Records

**Shittiest Album of the Year:**  
Anything by Simple Plan

**Best Horror Movie of the Year:**  
Blood on thee Snow

**Best New Band in your local scene:**  
The Great Sabatini

**Best tattooist you know:**  
Tats by Nat (Imago, Mtl)

**Best skater you know:**  
Dean Martinne

**Best Event/Party of the Year:**  
M.U.F.F. MONTREAL UNDERGROUND FILM FESTIVAL

**Shock of the Year:**  
Seeing our 45 Kicked in the Nuts selling for 199.00\$ on ebay

**Douche of the Year:**  
Pat Martin

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
Uncle Costa's staircase, and the back room at Sound Central (Montreal's most awesomest record shop)

**What do you really think about Absolute Underground?**  
It doesn't smear the crap around on my ass like NOW magazine does.

**Who are you and what are you best known for?**  
My name is Drool and I cannot answer the question on the grounds that it may incriminate me...

**Favorite Local Band that everyone should know about:**  
In Tzero the Groopies, in Mtl, Truth or Scare

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Converge Axe to Fall

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Priestess' new album on Indica Records

**Shittiest Album of the Year:**  
Anything by Simple Plan

**Best Horror Movie of the Year:**  
Blood on thee Snow

**Best New Band in your local scene:**  
The Great Sabatini

**Best tattooist you know:**  
Tats by Nat (Imago, Mtl)

**Best skater you know:**  
Dean Martinne

**Best Event/Party of the Year:**  
M.U.F.F. MONTREAL UNDERGROUND FILM FESTIVAL

**Shock of the Year:**  
Seeing our 45 Kicked in the Nuts selling for 199.00\$ on ebay

**Douche of the Year:**  
Pat Martin

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
Uncle Costa's staircase, and the back room at Sound Central (Montreal's most awesomest record shop)

**Who are you and what are you best known for?**  
That kid with the mush mouth gimmick, whats his name? The deer man of the dark woods ! He rules !!! oh and of course Duane Peters

**Best Event/Party of the Year:**  
CHRISTMAS WITH JOHN WATERS / BILLY HOPELESS BIRTHDAY 2009

**Shock of the Year:**  
Stephen Hawkings, Carl Sagan, GLORIOUS DAWN

**Douche of the Year:**  
SAME AS EVERY YEAR. NO ONE VOTED FOR HIM AND HE STILL WON

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
PUNK ROCK BOWLING

**What do you really think about Absolute Underground?**  
You're real huge at miniature world

**Who are you and what are you best known for?**  
I'm Chris Walter, and I'm best known as that asshole who once stole your last beer and maybe your girlfriend. I also write books.

**Favourite Local Band:**  
I don't have a favourite band, but Alternate Action are a lot of fun. Dreadnaught are also kicking ass.

**Best Punk Album of the Year:**  
Real McKenzies' Off the Leash maybe? Actually, Reanimated by The Unwanted

Continued on page 26

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## The WhiskeyDicks “Friends We Drink With”

By Emily Kendy

Not sure what comes first, being drunk or listening to the WhiskeyDicks, but a night spent doing both is one helluva party. As the head banging cello player Curtass says, “We love friends, we love drinking and we love drinking with friends.” The three-piece Celtic gypsy punk rockers, originally from Whitehorse, can be found playing all over Vancouver these days. Though they’re probably most well-known for regular gigs at the Atlantic Trap and Gill and Falconetti’s East Side Grill – two venues that have become immortalized in their songs; from what can only be construed as a blowjob in the bathroom of the first, to sleeping with the boss’s daughter in the second.

“That’s not true,” singer Ryan explains of the Falconetti’s song entitled, “The Godfather,” that leads to a tongue-in-cheek chorus of “don’t shit where you eat.” According to him the song bears a few double entendres. “It’s about sleeping with your neighbour’s wife, boss’s daughter, or coworker or roommate,” he says vaguely. “It’s also about how the bathrooms used to be right behind the stage so when people went by us to go the bathroom we’d notice if it took them a long time to get out of there.”

A blurred line between truth and fiction and some spectacularly clever lyricism gives their storytelling fresh and unexpected twists, part of what provides the familiar Celtic sound with a modern flavour. The other part is contributed by the musicianship. With Pat Ernst’s fiddle and brother Curtis’ cello and Ryan on vocals and guitar, it’s an Irish hybrid that grabs handfuls of styles from every genre while staying firmly rooted in tradition.

“We try to layer things as much as possible,” Ryan says. “The form of Irish music is generally pretty simple so we do complicated things in a simple form but its not music that’s inherently complicated. So the way that we put more artistry in the music is by adding layers.”

According to the band this comes from playing up to ten gigs a month together and trying to keep each other engaged in what they’re doing. They also have a lot to draw from with each band member’s musical diversity. Pat, for example, isn’t your average fiddle player. “Patty plays all the fiddle tunes you’ll ever want to hear plus he plays



mariachi music and flamenco and Jazz,” says Ryan after all ‘fiddler’ jokes have been exhausted. “He’s a big part of our eclecticism we’re famous for.”



This self-described eclecticism, and the fact that these days it’s almost impossible to nail down music styles all works in their favour. Making music when music has never been more difficult to define is something that allows them a lot of freedom.

“And we live in Vancouver the most multicultural city in Canada,” adds Pat. “I don’t think people get too upset when we stray from tradition.”

It would be hard to find a frown in the room when these three take to the stage; from the drunken sailor energy and rowdy songs that reference everything from Johnny Cash to Metallica and NOFX, it’s all about brazen playfulness and having a shitfaced good time.

“We’re trying to lead by example so we have to be drunk and belligerent and liking music and making it fun to be wherever we are that night,” sums up Ryan. This seems to be working like a charm because all band members make a living as musicians, no small feat in this so-called No Fun City. But they’re aided by the fact that alcohol and their music is a match made in heaven. Admits the singer, “Ever since I started drinking for a living I’ve become a workaholic.”

*(Check out the band’s rowdy and hilarious CD, Get’er Done. They play Falconetti’s Dec. 11, and The Trap and Gill for New Year’s Eve. Myspace.com/thewhiskeydicks)*

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### Interview with: Todd Berzerker (drums) & Damo (bass)

By: Ira “Crocodile” Hunter

Intro by Lacey Morris

The grotesque latex monster masks and constricting leather gloves may have long since been retired, but extreme Aussie metal band The Berzerker is still delivering the same intensely brutal sound at neck breaking speeds as they were nearly a decade ago with their debut self-titled album. 2008 marked the release of their painfully anticipated fifth album, ‘The Reawakening’—and what better way to celebrate a decade of success in the explicit world of underground metal than a North-American tour with one of the most highly regarded names in the history of death metal, Tampa Florida’s Obituary.

The greatest appeal with The Berzerker is how they defy so many sub-genres of music; By combining elements of speedcore, grindcore, techno, industrial, and death metal, they have ultimately invented their own distinct metal crossbreed—a vicious hell beast constructed of hypersonic trigger-injected blast beats, mercilessly melodic guitar riffs, and grotesquely brutal grind-inspired death vocals. Front man-vocalist Luke Kenny incorporates industrial sound bits and samples from popular shock films such as Faces of Death and Mondo Cane into the mass monstrosity of sound to create the ultimate seizure inducing, eardrum puncturing experience.

Literally like a shotgun blast to the head, The Berzerker is as fast and brutal as ever. Metal heads who tend to lean more towards the mainstream side of the spectrum will be begging for mercy, while those who prefer metal of a much more

intense nature will be starving for more. These innovatively talented Aussie guys are more than welcome to come back and satisfy our hunger for more of their extreme industrial metal.

Todd Berzerker: COOKIE MONSTER NUMM NUMM NUMM

**Absolute Underground: Who are we talking to cookie monster?**

Todd: I’m the Cookie Monster, Todd Berzerker.

**AU: “WON’T YOU SUCK MY COCK BERZERKER” ... is this band based off the Berzerker song from the movie Clerks?**

Todd: No, but we get that all the time and it gets old.

**AU: So you don’t like Kevin Smith?**

Todd: Yeah I love him except for that bit. I liked it until I joined this band, now I don’t.

**AU: So are you guys friends with Airbourne?**

Todd: Uh no, they’re just an AC/DC rip-off, no-one in Australia likes Airbourne.

**AU: So what’s The Berzerker all about?**

Todd: Berzerker is all about drinking beer, fucking around, and throwing around balls.

**AU: Has anyone successfully fucked a kangaroo without getting kicked to death?**

Todd: Kangaroos will beat the fuck out of you. A kangaroo is a better fighter than a boxer.

**AU: If you put the gloves on the feet and the paws, just watch out for the tail...**

Todd: You’d wanna hog tie the fucking thing and the tail is pretty strong so you’d want to cut his tail off so maybe... no I don’t think you can fuck a kangaroo.

**AU: Ok so you guys are a bunch of criminals or something?**

Damo: No, that’s the English, they’re criminal for sending us to a better country.

**AU: Like Canada gave up Alaska and they gave up Australia?**

Damo: Well Australia was their prison colony and they sent us to a better Country...Fucking idiots!

**AU: How much beer would you need for a walkabout?**

Todd: I couldn’t put a number on it cause I don’t know how long I’d be walking about for.

**AU: Is it true you only have one type of beer, Fosters Lager?**

Todd: We don’t ever drink fosters in Australia. We actually drink everything but Fosters.

**AU: Do you carry big knives and say “That’s not a knife”?**

Todd: No, not at all.

**AU: Have you partied with Paul Hogan?**

Todd: NO! Paul Hogan lives in LA or some shit,he lives in Americal



**AU: Describe your sound for the people**

Todd: It’s basically Industrial Death Metal Grindcore - mixing Ministry on fast-forward. It’s Digital Hardcore crossed with Extreme Death Metal.

**AU: What other bands are you in?**

Todd: I’m actually a bit of a band slut. I’ve played in a band called Headcast, it’s like Clown Metal!

**AU: Clown Metal?**

Todd: It’s like circus metal. Mr. Bungle meets Slipknot meets Death Metal.

**AU: What else is going on in Australia?**

Todd: Lots of things man...BBQ’s.

**AU: Do you eat kangaroo?**

Todd: Yeah we do and it’s delicious! You just knock em with your car and eat them.

**AU: If we were to travel to any city in Australia, where are the best metal shows?**

Todd: I’d go to Brisbane cause I’m from there and it’s the best city. Steve Irwin’s zoo is like an hour and a half north from Brisbane.

**AU: Has a girl ever told you “Put it in me dumper”?**

Todd: Nope, never.

**AU: What would you do if she said that?**

Todd: I’d put it in her dumper!

**AU: Final words for people back in Victoria?**

Todd: Victoria is a state of Australia, so good night Australia!

Damo: Listen to grindcore and support Australian Death Metal and mosh, fucking mosh.

myspace.com/theberzerker

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**Best Hardcore Album of the Year:**  
Punk and hardcore were once the same thing, but now hardcore is just screamo tough guy metal or something. Am I showing my age?

**Best Metal Album of the Year:**  
The fuck do I know about metal? Go ask the singer from 3IOB.

**Shittiest Album of the Year:**  
Whatever Nickleback did last, followed by Rancid's new album. Time to hang it up, Tim.

**Best Live show of the Year:**  
Dayglos at the Cobalt with Mike Jak. The Cretin was on crutches and played with two broken strings. Now that's rock n' roll.

**Best Movie of the Year:**  
Ah fuck, saw lots of good ones but can't think. Am I showing my age?

**Best Horror Movie of the Year:**  
Drag Me to Hell.

**Best New Band taking over your local scene:**  
Dreadnaught.

**Best tattooist you know:**  
The dude currently working on my legs.

**Best skater you know:**  
The fuck do I know about skaters? Go ask Tony Hawk.

**Best Event/Party of the Year:**  
Beats me. I like to get to bed at around 8:30. Am I showing my age?

**Shock of the Year:**  
That we didn't all die of the H1N1. According to the media, we should have.

**Douche of the Year:**  
The CEO of Translink, Tom Prendergast, who "earns" more than 1 000,000,000 a year. Fuck him.

**Who are you and what are you best known for?**  
**E.S. Day.** I'm known for getting drugs for celebrities and having my slanderous reviews censored/edited

**Favorite Local Band:**  
Ninjaspy

**Best Punk Album of the Year:**  
Nothing, still listening to Back from Samoa by Angry Samoans

**Best Hardcore Album of the Year:**  
Throwdown- Deathless

**Best Metal Album of the Year:**  
Slayer - World Painted Blood

**Shittiest Album of the Year:**  
Anything on Roadrunner Records.

**Best Live show of the Year:**  
Kreator/Exodus in Vancouver

**Best Movie of the Year:**  
Bronson

**Best Horror Movie of the Year:**  
Gnaw

**Best New Band in your local scene:**  
Vancouver Killing Spree

**Best tattooist you know:**  
Paul Booth

**Best skater you know:**  
Hate skaters.

**Best Event/Party of the Year:**  
Anything outside of Vancouver

**Shock of the Year:**  
Being asked to fill out this survey four years in a row

**Douche of the Year:**  
Over sized-glasses-wearing hipsters that plague our city

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
The entire staff of ABORT Magazine

**What do you really think about Absolute Underground?**  
Please don't make me answer this...oh wait - am I even in this issue?



**Who are you and what are you best known for?**  
**Les "In One Ear" Wiseman.** Chronicing the pop culture scene for 33 years.

**Favorite Local Band:**  
Dayglo Abortions -better than ever.

**Best Punk Album of the Year:**  
Northern Avenger by D.O.A.

**Best Hardcore Album of the Year:**  
Behold the Failure by Mumakil

**Best Metal Album of the Year:**  
The Root of All Evil by Arch Enemy

**Shittiest Album of the Year:**  
All Hope is Gone by Slipknot. Love the band, hate the album. They abandoned their roots and went prog.

**Best Live show of the Year:**  
Zappa Plays Zappa at the McPherson Theatre

**Best Movie of the Year:**  
The guy from Nickelback getting beaned with a full beer can on YouTube.

**Best Horror Movie of the Year:**  
For sheer enduring horror and absolutely disturbing content: anything involving triple anal penetration.

**Best New Band in your local scene:**  
Iskra

**Best tattooist you know:**  
Bob at Universal Tattoos

**Best skater you know:**  
Tiemen Kuipers

**Shock of the Year:**  
That celebrities take anesthetic to go to sleep at night. How fucked up is that?

**Douche of the Year:**  
Massengill

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
The Recession is Over (not from where I sit!)

**What do you really think about Absolute Underground?**  
I'm proud to be associated with it, but am astonished that it hasn't had its ass sued off. It's one of the only publications today that allows real writing and freedom of expression.



T.A.T. Some terrible British band that I got for review. I ended up tossing it out.

**Best Live show of the Year:**  
Brutal Knights with the Sedatives at Rancho Relaxo in Toronto sometime in August.

**Best Movie of the Year:**  
et Them Know: The Story of Youth Brigade and BYO Records.

**Best Horror Movie of the Year:**  
Drag Me to Hell.

**Best New Band in your local scene:**  
Machettes.

**Best tattooist you know:**  
Jenny Boulger. She works at Sal's in China Town, pretty rad stuff.

**Best skater you know:**  
Eric Buehner from Holly Wood Swank. That dude is all about "Skate and Destroy". Or maybe it's "Skate while Destroyed".

**Best Event/Party of the Year:**  
When I was wasted at some small bar in Montreal and King Khan showed up and did a free style battle with Bloodshot Bill.

**Shock of the Year:**  
Chuck Biscuits is dead. Oh, wait. No he's not.

**Douche of the Year:**  
Sarah Palin or that chimp that ripped that ladies face off.

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
That lady getting her faced ripped off by that chimp was pretty gnarly.

**What do you really think about Absolute Underground?**  
I liked reading it and eventually started contributing to it. Dreams do come true.



**Best New Band in your local scene:**  
Dead Man's Trio

**Best tattooist you know:**  
Steve Elia

**Best Event/Party of the Year:**  
B.C. Hemp daZe

**Shock of the Year:**  
Sons of Anarchy showing two guys on a mushroom trip.

**Douche of the Year:**  
Steven Harper

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
Being contacted by the CRTC for raunchy radio content!!!



**Best Hardcore Album of the Year:**  
Capital City Stalkers.

**Best Metal Album of the Year:**  
I'll just say SLAYER. Safe bet.

**Best Live show of the Year:**  
The Bronx at Richards in Van

**Best Movie of the Year:**  
The Hangover. Watch this hung-over.

**Best Horror Movie of the Year:**  
Let The Right One In

**Best New Band in your local scene:**  
Easy...CLASS OF 1984! Recognize.

**Best tattooist you know:**  
The Jamedog

**Best skaters you know:**  
Darcy Dennis and James Lindsay.

**Best Event/Party of the Year:**  
Victoria Film Festival

**Shock of the Year:**  
Possible Turbonegro break-up.

**Douche of the Year:**  
The V-Lounge

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
The V Lounge

**What do you really think about Absolute Underground?**  
Perfect bird cage liner.



been a contender if I could remember what happened.

**Shock of the Year:**  
Lost my favourite bar The Cobalt.

**Douche of the Year:**  
Life Brand douche, I heard it's the best on the market.

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
Did I mention they took my favourite bar away from me? BASTARDS!



**Best Garage Album of the Year:**  
Holy Moly it's the Zap Straps

**Shittiest Album of the Year:**  
New Kiss, Self Inflicted

**Best Live shows of the Year:**  
John Prine @ UVIC... Unrest Fest

**Best Movie of the Year:**  
Anvil -- The Story of Anvil

**Best Horror Movie of the Year:**  
My life

**Best New Band in your local scene:**  
The FROSTBACKS of course

**Best tattooist you know:**  
The mighty JAMEDOG, and Jesse Dicey

**Best Hardcore Album of the Year:**  
Don't know, don't care

**Best skater you know:**

Buzz

**Best Event/Party of the Year:**  
Ivy's second birthday

**Shock of the Year:**  
Me quitting weed

**Douche of the Year:**  
Me

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
Unrest Fest

**What do you really think about Absolute Underground?**  
Used to rule now sucks... too much gay burlesque rockabilly and Symphony of Horrors. Too many bands that aren't underground.

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Continued from page 27



**Who are you and what are you best known for?**  
My name is **Jordan** and I play in the Calgary Death/Grind band Kataplexis.

**Favorite Local Band:**  
Akakor. Great people, great musicians and a great message. Check them out @ [www.myspace.com/akakormetal](http://www.myspace.com/akakormetal)

**Best Punk Album of the Year:**  
Strung Out - Agents Of The Underground.

**Best Hardcore Album of the Year:**  
Converge - Axe To Fall. These guys are the kings of hardcore.

**Best Metal Album of the Year:**  
Burnt By The Sun - Heart Of Darkness  
Six years was worth the wait. R.I.P. BBTs. Runners up : Behemoth - Evangelion, Rammstein - Liebe Ist Fur Alle Da, The Red Chord - Fed Through The Teeth Machine, Napalm Death - Time Waits For No Slave, Brutal Truth - Evolution Through Revolution

**Shittiest Album of the Year:**  
Slayer - World Painted Blood. Sounds rushed and has the worst guitar tone on a Slayer album ever.

**Best Live show of the Year:**  
Faith No More..

**Best Horror Movie of the Year:**  
H2. Anything with Michael Myers gives me a boner.

**Best New Band in your local scene:**  
Kataplexis! But Akakor, We Found The Body, Mark Of Cain and Kilyakai all shred mad styles.

**Best tattooist you know:**  
Marshall at Atomic Zombie in Edmonton.

**Best Event/Party of the Year:**  
Demonika's Symphony Of Horrors 4 and Gore Games.

**Shock of the Year:**  
The Flames making the playoffs. They Fucking suck!!!

**Douche of the Year:**  
Anybody who goes to shows to pick fights and cause trouble.

**What do you really think about Absolute Underground?:**  
It kicks ass!!!





**Who are you and what are you best known for?:**  
**Paul Solet.**  
Writer-Director. Did a movie called GRACE, but that Jack Chop youtube video seems to be my greatest accomplishment.

**Favorite Local Band:**  
The GLITCH MOB

**Best Punk Album of the Year:**  
Propagandi: Supporting Caste

**Best Hardcore Album of the Year:**  
Converge: Axe to Fall

**Best Metal Album of the Year:**  
Did Zao put out an album this year?

**Best Live show of the Year:**  
Glitch Mob again- those dudes are on fire. Go see them. And if you're too cool to go rock it to that shit because you think you're so punk rock, then you can get raped.

**Best Movie of the Year:**  
DON'T LOOK BACK

**Best Horror Movie of the Year:**  
THE CHILDREN

**Best New Band in your local scene:**  
DEATHRACE

**Best tattooist you know:**  
Nathan Kostechko- Coil Gallery, Chinatown LA

**Best skater you know:**  
Tanya Harding

**Best local Artist deserving of more recognition:**  
The homeless dude who paints in his own shit on Santa Monica blvd. That shit is poetry

**Best Event/Party of the Year:**  
Two men passing out at the Sundance premiere of GRACE

**Douche of the Year:**  
Anyone who didn't see GRACE

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
TERMINATOR: SALVATION

**What do you really think about Absolute Underground?:**  
Punk as fuck



**Who are you and what are you best known for?**  
**Ryan Dyer** - Money, hoes and clothes is all this nigga knows.

**Favorite Local Band:**  
Akakor, PsykotiQ Monk

**Best Metal Album of the Year:**  
Devin Townsend Project - Addicted

**Shittiest Album of the Year:**  
Probably the New Moon soundtrack.

**Best Live show of the Year:**  
Canadian Carnage, Summer Slaughter, Down/Voivod, Noctis, Bison/Lazarus

**Best Movie of the Year:**  
Bruno

**Best Horror Movie of the Year:**  
Martyrs, Hanger, Orphan, Smash Cut, Vampire Girl Vs Frankenstein Girl, Black Devil Doll, Grace

**Worst Horror Movie:**  
This Is It

**Best Event/Party of the Year:**  
Dem crazy Demonika shows

**Shock of the Year:**  
An article of mine making it to the cover of my college's newspaper. A more typical event was my next one not being included at all.


**Douche of the Year:**  
The one signed by Hanger director Ryan Nicholson to be given away as a prize at his screenings.

**Clusterfuck of the Year:**  
Me




Continued on page 33


# Sacrifice



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## Calabrese

### And They Say Punk Rock is Dead...

By Chuck Wurley and J-Unit

Hailing from the dry deserts of Arizona, Calabrese have been bringing their brand of horror rock to the world since 2003. Calabrese are a three piece, consisting of brothers Bobby, Jimmy and Davey. And yes, like the Ramones, they all have the same last name. Unlike the Ramones however, Calabrese is their actual last name. Spooky? I think so. They have toured and played with everyone from Mad Sin, to Michael Graves, to The Living

End. In 2010 they will release their third album, "They Call Us Death", onto the world.

**Absolute Underground: When it comes to songwriting, is there much sibling rivalry in regards to lyrics and melodies, or is it "you write it, you sing it"?**

Bobby: I think it's half and half, more so the "you write it, you sing it" idea. Unless one of us is singing about sparkling vampires or trying to hit a row of high notes that sounds absolutely awful, then yeah, we'll yell at each other over that!

Jimmy: I think in the past few years the dynamic of the music writing has changed. It used to be 50/50 writing the music, but now that Bobby has advanced beyond the three chord songs (which are the only songs I write) he has become the driving musical force. With my ego bruised, I've tried to pick up the slack by trying to dominate with lyrics!

**AU: The Misfits are a pretty obvious influence; are there any other bands that you'd list as influences?**

Bobby: Definitely! Besides Samhain and Danzig, I dig Rocket From the Crypt, Man Or Astroman?, Black Flag, White Zombie, Type-O-Negative, The Damned, MC5, Guitar Wolf, Muse, all sorts of shit.

Jimmy: Ditto for me. Also, Dead Kennedys, Black Sabbath, The Ramones. All the classics.

**AU: What bands do you particularly enjoy touring or just doing shows with?**

Bobby: Obviously, I can't NOT mention playing with Tiger Army, which was incredible. Hour of the Wolf from Prescott is also cool to play with. They're insane live, and they always give me inspiration and energy. Also, any of those horror rock and roll fests we play are a lot of fun too. It's really rad to play with and watch a ton of like-minded bands!

Jimmy: I think Bobby's double negative means he hates playing shows with Tiger Army? Ha! I've

always had fun at shows when we've played with Order Of The Fly in California, Creepsville 666 in Arizona or Ends In Tragedy in New Mexico.

**AU: The video for "Voices of the Dead" is more impressive than many videos by multi-platinum artists. How did you come up with the concept for it and make it look so good?**

Jimmy: It was pure luck. We ended up meeting Brian Pulido (the comic creature-creator of Lady Death and Evil Ernie) at a show we did at Atomic Comics, a really rad comic shop. He wanted to build his reel for his new film company and he



gave us a great deal on the video. The concept was a no brainer, we wanted to combine the two things we love the most: monsters and ourselves! To pull off such a polished video, all we had to do was show up. Brian and his crew took care of the rest.

**AU: What are some of your favorite horror films? Do you prefer older classic films, or newer, glitzier horror?**

Bobby: Definitely older. I've always been a fan of the Italian stuff like Argento, Bava and Fulci. The

really weird, stylized and creepy films are what it's all about. "Splatter comedies" are awesome, too. "Braindead", "Evil Dead", "Bad Taste"...we love it!

Jimmy: I'm a sucker for the new classics: "Halloween", "A Nightmare On Elm Street", "Texas Chainsaw Massacre". But my true love lies in the horror comedy genre, "Fright Night", "The Evil Dead", "Braindead" or "Shaun of the Dead".

**AU: You've got a comic book in the works; what can you tell us about that?**

Jimmy: We teamed up with Modern Mythology Press to bring the adventures of Calabrese in 2010. It's a one shot story, which, depending on the success of the comic, we'll keep releasing. And with any hope we will ruin comics for everyone!

Bobby: Well, all I can say is that it's going to be insane. We'll pretty much bankrupt DC and Marvel with our new brand of comic book terror!

**AU: Seeing as you're all brothers, do you come from a very musical background?**

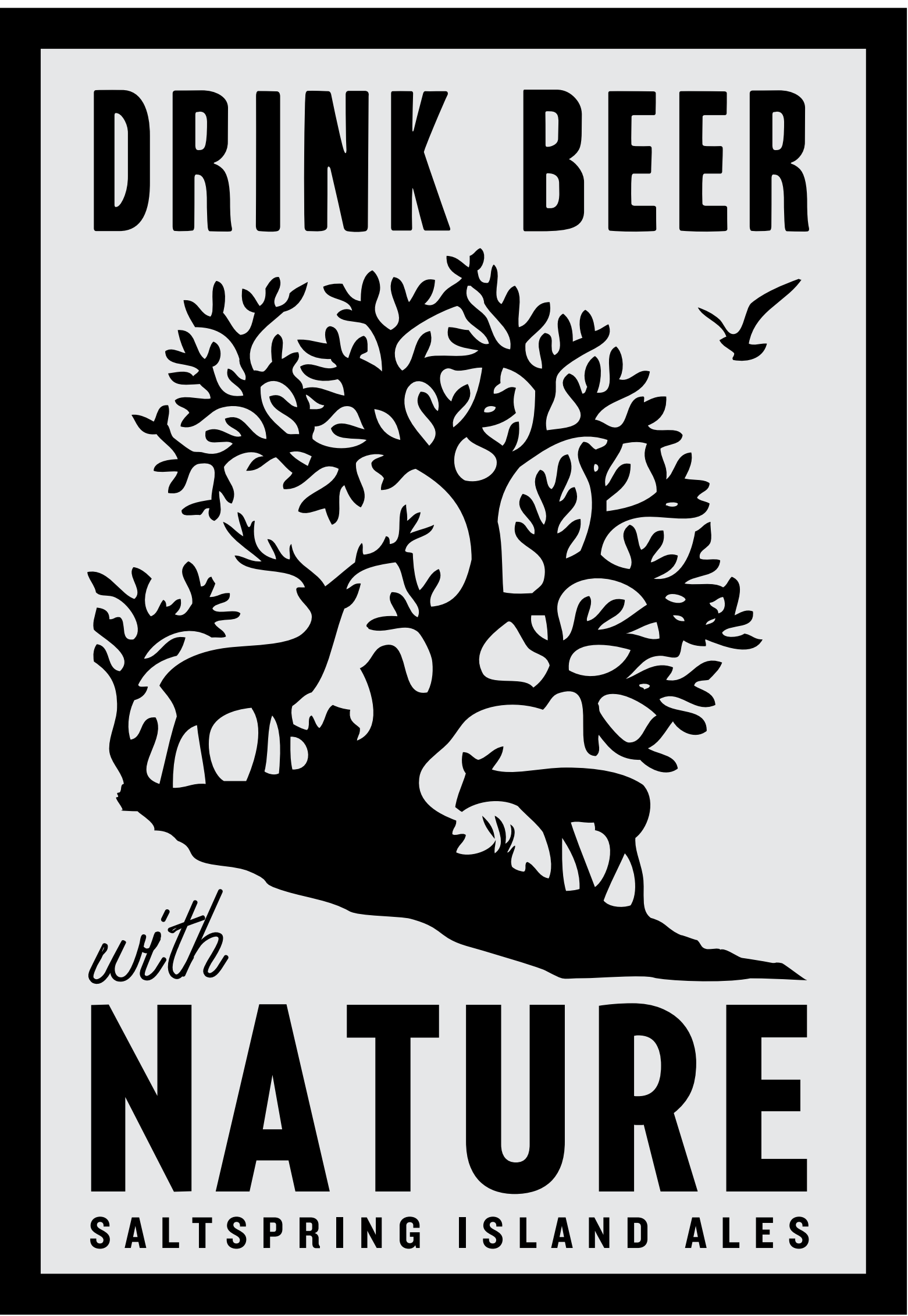
Bobby: We get this question a lot, and it's pretty funny, because no one else in our family is musical! Ha! I'm sure everyone can sing a note or two, and all of our siblings are into music, but as far as I can tell: no one else plays music! I'm just going to assume we were adopted by a group of traveling gypsies.

Jimmy: Traveling vampire gypsies, to be precise.

**AU: Any final words you'd like to leave us all with?**

Bobby: Yeah, make sure to check us out on Youtube, Twitter, Myspace and Facebook! Also, our new record, "They Call Us Death", will be available early February 2010. But if you act now, you can snag yourself a pretty killer pre-order deal at [www.CalabreseRock.com](http://www.CalabreseRock.com)! Do it... and feel the madness!

Jimmy: Also, we'll be making our film debut (as ourselves) in the film, "The Graves", during the After Dark Horror Fest 4.

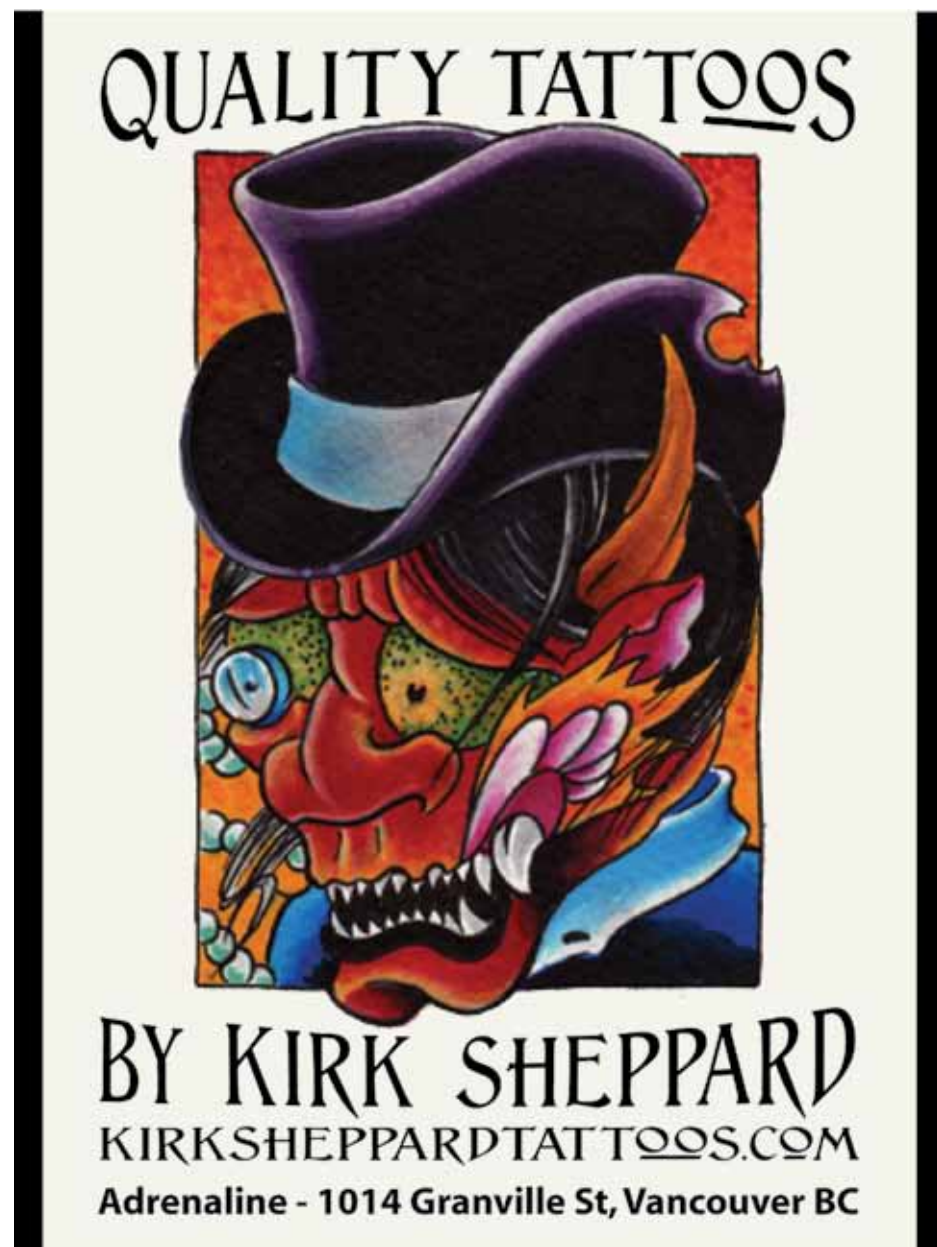


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# Absolute LIVE Review

GOREGAMES 3

October 31 - The Underground, Calgary AB

For the third year running MissDeMeanor and Demonika have reached deep down into their sick minds to bring us the bloodiest and most debauched Halloween celebration possible. The Gore Games once more lived up to their name and reputation, hosted as in previous years, at the Underground. The bar was transformed with a scattering of limbs, bones, torture implements, and other things your mother wouldn't likely approve of. And

way, after making their presence known, our apocalyptic hosts drew a few willing deviants out of the audience to get their hands bloody with a series of brain transplants that were anything but medically sound. As the night crept on Death and his assistants would reappear to incite further wayward drunks to transgress against all that is right and good in exchange for a chance to win fantastic prizes. Easily the most talked about and likely most

on Samhain? Did I mention that this celebration of gore and girls had The Dead Cold providing a live soundtrack? A thin sheet of plastic was all that separated this Edmontonian quintet from the splatterfest, and as the blood cannon ran down so did the barrier the kept them from the audience.



The Dead Cold was only one of three bands to amaze and astound that night. Opening act ParaPsychotic played a unique brand of thrash, their sound owing no small part to their upright bassist. Fucker played that thing so hard the headstock snapped right off. The evenings headliners need little introduction. If you haven't heard of Dead Jesus by now, then you're probably reading the wrong magazine. Admittedly, my memories of Dead Jesus' set are somewhat fuzzy due to excessive celebration. I can't

that's saying nothing of the patron's costumes that ranged from the absurd, the silly, the deadly sexy, and simply deadly.

To kick the festivities off, Death himself berated the audience and introduced his fellow horsemen. Or is that horsewomen? Either

watched of the depraved events was the infamous bloody t-shirt contest. A sampling from the fairer sex in Calgary's alternative world attired in the most appropriate garments (wife-beaters) and covered head to toe in blood. What else would you want to see

imagine spending Halloween any other way.  
By The Dirty D

Noctis 3 - Tritagonist

October 3, Macewan Hall Ballroom

By Father Dyer

Let's get right into the action, shall we? Fornication wore the first spiked armbands and guitar straps of the night. Their nails were loose and wobbly, self made. As the night went on, these evil fashion accessories looked better and better. Fornication probably made them in their dad's garage. Hope he doesn't notice the missing tools. Sodom and Sepultura covers topped off their set. The show teeter tottered from the Den to Mac Hall. The first Mac Hall band was Begrimed Exemious, who have



this great Necrophagia sound, but I just can't take their vocalist seriously. He has this short haircut, though wears typical metal guard. He never talks normally, always using his frothy tarman zombie voice even when saying "Thank you" to the crowd before introducing the next song. I can't help but imagine him at home ordering Chinese Food like this.

In the Den, the crowd was very into this band called HROM who sang in very, very high pitched voices about going "Through the Universe" and other nerdy conquests. I don't want to say much else bad about them. They were very talented musically, as many power metal bands are - but the style just isn't my cup of tea.

Exit Strategy was typical in their technical brutality - with Therese dedicating one song to molesting preachers everywhere after asking the crowd if they read the newspaper on this recent religious controversy. Crickets chirped, before the frontwoman purged into a vocal display on the verge of possession.

A Bloodshed Nightmare was like the Native American version of Katplexis. Brutal grindcore from these young gents. People seemed to be taking a breather for them, unfortunately, as the dance floor was left mostly empty for their barrage of noise.

Aura Noir played under a thick mast of smoke which perfectly accentuated their old school Venom like sound. With a cute squeak, the vocalist announced his gratification with the Canadian audience, remarking that it was his first time here. It will hopefully not be their last.

Akakor follows in the long line of examples that you cannot judge a band's content on their grotesque grunts alone. Craig Reaburn's new project takes on dark societal underpinnings and weaves them into their ultra technical compositions. Live, it incinerates faces rather than just melting them.

Destroyer 666 brought a surge of blackened death to the fist pumping masses. Some open handed sieg heils also came with them, as a small group of skinheads

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waxed anthemia while many a humble metal fan stood watching with jaws on the floor. Fascist or not, it was a hellishly good performance, and their spiked armbands looked fabulous compared to the earlier bands.

"The Final Juggernaut" was already undertow in the Den as Sacred Ally clenched their legions in a closed fist of sweaty fervor.

Being awesome seems to come naturally to them. An expectedly fun set.

As New York death metal legends Suffocation took to the stage, the skinheads had noticeably vanished, probably due to the band being 40% black. The sound was noticeably fucked after around 20 minutes of their set.

Seems Suffo blew the speakers. Still, circle pits erupted for the heaviest set of the night, and the humble NY good ol' boys promised they'd be back.

The bloodied white t shirts Death Toll Rising wore were a breath of fresh air to the endless barrage of spikes and leather up until that point. Don't ask me what they sounded like, though, it was fucking late by then - I was a walking zombie.

Cynic brought the big band atmosphere to a day's worth of understated visual performances. The stage production was very Tool-esque, with open anatomies and esoteric symbols littered about, but Cynic's message delivered almost a deeper understanding. Cynic's progressively light, out of body sound isn't for everyone, but those who were left to enjoy one of the most talented bands to hit Calgary in months were given a treat - that is after the near 10 minutes of uncomfortable silence brought forth by the broken PA - but as the crowd waited, a message before one of their songs became clear, that pain is only a reaction to what is happening in reality. The reality being, that we can't hear you. It was painful, but endured.

Overall, this Noctis was a couple of shrapnel greater than the last, and as such the next will be greater than this.

# Absolute Live Reviews

Send Us your Live Reviews by Email [admin@absoluteunderground.ca](mailto:admin@absoluteunderground.ca)

Satyricon/ Cthonic

October 14 - Rickshaw Theatre - Vancouver B.C.

Apparently, when Satyricon played Vancouver the first time to a rapturous crowd, they promised to be back soon. Eight short months later, they made good with a stellar headlining show at the Rickshaw. First though, we were treated to the frenzy of openers Cthonic, from Taiwan. As I only caught a few songs in their set, here's the impression I was left with: A competent and punishing black metal band, Cthonic struck me with a great deal of familiarity to Cradle of Filth - very symphonic, very dramatic, if not as overtly-to-the-point-of-being-maudlin 'evil' as their British comparison. Cthonic's lyrics incorporate a great deal of Taiwanese history and mythology, and lead singer Freddy Lim even plays the erhu (2-stringed Chinese violin) onstage, which comes off truly complementary to the rest of the band's feverish attack. Fascinating as Cthonic were, though, we were all slavishly anticipating our cousins from the North. Slithering onstage (after requisite dramatic, gothic opening music, of course) with a blistered rendering of "Repined Bastard Nation", Satyricon worked the Rickshaw's crowd of 300 or so into a sweaty, moshy frenzy with a set mostly comprised of their two most-recent, most-accessible albums (2008's 'Age of Nero', and 2006's 'Now, Diabolical'), but with a couple standards thrown in for good measure. No need for severed animal heads on stakes, naked chicks on crucifixes, and/or King-Diamond-make-up-as painted-by Helen-Keller to get their point across. Vocalist Satyr Wongraven is a very charismatic frontman, winning the crowd over with his appeals for more noise, and compliments of our fair country (must be a 'north' thing). In quick succession, the band belted out "The Wolfpack", "Now, Diabolical", and the highly-anticipated "Black Crow on a Tombstone", very deftly. The entire room of sweaty blackclads was singing right back at him, too. The frenzied crowd went ballistic as the band marched into "K.I.N.G.", and screamed themselves hoarse at Satyr's prodding command. But the true prize of the night was tried-and-true anthem "Mother North" (from 1996's Nemesis Divina) which had been shouted for since the opening of the set. True to their nature, Satyricon did not disappoint - whipping us all ragged with their Nordic aggression and leaving us spent from a great night of relentless black metal fury. It's especially gratifying to have seen them in such a great venue, upon hearing the news that this leg marks the end of touring for Satyricon until at least 2011, as the band takes a needed rest and to work on a new record. Until then, we'll have to make do with listening to the records and painting our faces in rapt anticipation.

SATYRICON



SATYRICON

this five piece local band brought an element of brutality to the show. Bassist Rob Shimbashi, drummer John Merkl, and vocalist Paul Merkl have been in a few bands together since 2005 and have gone through multiple line changes before finally added the two missing ingredients they needed: guitarists Calvin Shiu and Jeff Werner. Once all the smoke cleared there was one band left, veterans Reverend Kill whom were recently signed to Painkiller Records. Formed in 2004 by guitarist Don Stenhouse when Stenhouse started writing riffs with a drum machine and an eight track recorder, he then started searching for a band once he had enough tracks for a CD. After several line-up changes they've formed the Reverend Kill we know today: guitarists Teran Wyer, Drummer Vinnie Cardellini, vocalist Graham Harris, and bassist Aj Kovar. Reverend Kill performed at a level most bands could only hope to achieve, giving the crowd a spectacular show. Guitarists Don Stenhouse, Teran Wyer fed patrons a steady diet of string bending leads and punishing rhythms. Bass player Aj Kovar, and drummer Vinnie Cardellini were solid in the rhythm section while front man Graham Harris kept the crowd going during the whole set with his showmanship unmatched by any front man that evening.

Paul Merkl

The Misfits/ Forbidden

Dimension/ 40 Gun Flagship

November 8 - The Whiskey - Calgary A.B.

Calgary horror punk fans filled The Whiskey on a Sunday night for a sold out show. Black Flag members Dez and Robo hooked up with Jerry Only who happened to be the only original Misfit to take stage this tour. Opening bands 40 Gun flagship followed by Forbidden Dimension took stage to warm up the crowd with some rock n' roll. The bands were good, and had a few gals in the pit area dancing. Regardless of how hard the bands tried to please the crowd, the people only wanted one thing, and that was The Misfits. Through both bands sets the sound of "Let's go Misfits" could be heard echoing throughout the bar. Finally, the much anticipated Misfits took stage with the classic anthem, "Halloween". Jerry, sporting some classy knee pads, filled the stage as they played a wide range of material including "Helena", "Dig up her Bones", and "Saturday Night". Note to "fans" - do not throw beer cans, cups, or anything at the stage unless you want to either get it back in the face or get kicked out. Overall a great set, but a surprisingly fantastic encore that was, in fact, not a song. Jerry came out on stage sporting a sharpie and he spent at

Reverend Kill/ Pathogen/ Jesus and the Superfriends/ Guruth  
October 23 - University of Lethbridge

Friday night was a night to remember in the Lethbridge heavy metal scene. Calgary heavyweights Reverend Kill headlined the show preceded by three local bands Pathogen, Jesus and the Superfriends, and Guruth. Opening the show high school head bangers Guruth got the crowd pumped up with a solid performance ensuing moshpit after moshpit, followed by the musical stylings of Jesus and the Superfriends whom have a very diverse sound from progressive power metal to aggressive melodic black metal riffs. The third band of the night was Pathogen who made their first appearance on stage in the last six months. Formed in 2008,

re-instill faith that the music scene in Victoria is not dead.  
Pauly HC

Propagandhi w/ The Rebel Spell & Cambridge

October 27 - The Rickshaw - Vancouver B.C.

It has been nine long years since this Manitoba trio have ventured through the mountains and graced Vancouver with their presence & the fans were chomping at the bit to get their fix. The lineup stretched down Hastings with many grumbling that they could not gain entry due to the sell-out crowd of 700+. Faithfully many waited in a "reserve" line with hopes of gaining entry; alas droves had to be turned away on this night. Openers Cambridge got the crowd going with their straight up, no frills punk rock and got a warm reception. Next up locals the Rebel Spell belted out offerings from their forthcoming album with passion and had the crowd's fists in the air chanting their sing along chorus! Finally the halfheads took the stage. Opening with the title track from their new album they blazed through their set, spanning their entire repertoire they belted out classics like "Nation States", "A Speculative Fiction", "Back to the Motor League" and closing with a rousing rendition of "Ant-Manifesto" where at the end, Todd the Rod went rubberman and did a front flip into the pit. One of the more enjoyable moments was the impromptu jam session that started a track off of "Supporting Caste", "Last Will" and "Testament" that really brought that 700+ crowd together and made it feel like a truly intimate moment. I've seen them 13+ times, but this was one of the better ones for certain. Their presence in the west has been long overdue & please don't wait another nine years before you come on back.

Pauly HC

Skinny Puppy

November 3 2009 - The Rickshaw -Vancouver B.C.

I feel under-qualified to write this review. Despite traveling 16 hours on the H1N1-Express (aka. Greyhound) from Calgary to Vancouver, and owning several albums, it seems there are Skinny Puppy fans and then there are SKINNY PUPPY FANS. So even though I have likely spent more time backcombing my hair to Cevin Key's early synthpop in "Images in Vogue" than I have to "Too Dark Park", I shall try and recall the evening as vividly as possible (copious amounts of Captain Morgan's ingested prior notwithstanding), and give justice to a band that can only be described as legendary. After an earnest effort from the solo opening act (whose name escapes me and who had quite the daunting task of playing appetizer to such a delectably famous main course), Skinny Puppy took to the stage. Vocalist Nivek Ogre's ensemble was a lovely mishmash of KKK member, Pope, and geriatric bandaged goth. Replete with a walker and canes, he led the audience through an impressive back catalogue of tunes, playing many older tracks that the crowd seemed ecstatic to hear. By the time the encore of "Warlock" and "Far too Frail" rolled around, Ogre had torn off his horrifying Repo-esqe mask, emitted smoke from his cone hat and showered the crowd with fake blood. Perhaps it was the sheer awe of hearing such well-loved dancefloor stompers in a live setting, but the audience went absolutely apeshit at this point, allowing me ample opportunities to press against the beautiful deathrock boy next to me, who smelled pungently of incense, patchouli and male angst. "swoon". For hardcore puppy worshipers and dabblers such as myself, Skinny Puppy put on an impressive all-too-short show that made the nausea inducing bus ride from hell all worthwhile.

Julia Totino

Ensiferum/Blackguard/Lazarus A.D./Titans Eve

November 22, 2009 - The Rickshaw - Vancouver, B.C.

Missed most of Titans Eve due to no announcement of when the show would actually start, but what I saw I liked a lot! Been enjoying their EP for a while and they're just as good live if not better. An interesting thrash sound which includes some great melody and elements of death metal. Keep an eye on these dudes. Lazarus A.D. has a good classic yet new thrash sound as well. Very confident with great stage play; they know what they are doing despite their age. Intermittent sound problems all night, but they really got the crowd going regardless. Blackguard also suffered sound problems. Lots of energetic synchronized head banging and flailing around stage with furious and unrelenting rhythm. C.O.B.-esque with the overpowering synth sound. Singer should reel in the man love a bit, and shut up between songs. No Verbal Deception when it comes to pirate metal but have some obvious musical talent. Crowd did love them at least. Ensiferum recieved a very warm welcome, taking the viking theme even further this time. Very, very epic sounding, especially "Wanderer". Even the random Moms love em! Do not come off phony or insincere like some other folk metal bands. Got all the kids dancing in circles. Asked what song to play last, but played both for the hell of it. Long, awesome set. Great show overall. If the Rickshaw keeps having shows of this calibre (AND still supports local shows) this could turn out to be one of the best metal destinations in town.

David Warren



JERRY ONLY -  
photo by Jake Jackoff/  
Cathedral, Toronto

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**Interview with Director**

**PAUL SOLET**

By Ryan D

Paul Solet's Grace was last year's sleeper hit which took film festivals by storm. The story of a woman who wasn't ready to give up her deceased newborn and the bloody aftermath that followed was enough to make some audience members faint in their seats. Grace proved in a big way that psychological and body horror are still as relevant as ever, and possibly are more important than gratuitous shocks and gore buffets.

**Absolute Underground - Grace was just released on DVD, making your first film available for generations to come as long as films exist, how does it feel?**

Paul Solet - It feels pretty amazing! Particularly knowing that the film will live on Blu-Ray as well. That technology is just fantastic. The picture, the sound, everything is gorgeous. I can't tell you how thrilled our whole team was to hear we'd be out on Blu-Ray as well as DVD. The producer, Adam Green, and I both grew up studying DVD and laserdisc extras every chance we got, so we went to really great lengths to make this an incredible DVD. Adam Barnick, who did five of the featurettes, has been working on GRACE almost as long as I have, and he put a slew of gorgeous, intelligent, entertaining docs together that will get any aspiring filmmaker jazzed as hell, and Jake Hamilton, a partner of mine for years on shorts, produced a documentary on our Sundance experience that is so good it literally makes people cry.

**AU - With a few individuals fainting in theaters, Grace's reputation preceded it. Does this type of hype intimidate you in coming up with a follow up film?**

PS - I don't think so, no. It's a great validation that the film gets under people's skin enough to make them lose consciousness, and so far only one of the four people has actually hurt themselves, which is a relief. As I write this, I'm coming home from Sitges, where our first woman fainted. Thus far, it had been

only men, which I thought was telling. People aren't fainting from gore, they're fainting from subject matter, and situational tension. It's just not a bloody film. Not a gut punch. It's much more of a soul punch. I never aimed to make anyone pass out, I just aimed to create a world that audiences couldn't escape from as I find myself too frequently able to escape from the movies I watch. I tried to create a world authentic enough emotionally, that you really had to be there with the characters the entire ride, and that seems to have worked. I'll aspire to nothing less the next

if a film can grow by being remade, than I'm all for it. It's the cases when a film has nowhere to grow, or the vision of the filmmaker isn't strong enough to elevate the original, that remakes become sad and tedious marketing ploys. But without remakes, you wouldn't have THE THING, or any of a whole slew of other genuinely effective films. If doing a remake will result in a great film, I'll absolutely do one. That said, I am always generating original material and that is my central focus.

**AU - You made Grace in only seventeen days. Will you stick to this speedy method in future films?**

PS - Every meeting I took on GRACE, people agreed we needed 30 days to shoot it. So we agreed to 24. Which became 22, then 20. But it was 20 in LA, which would have meant we could call in a lot of favors from friends and vendors we know. But then the financiers decided we should shoot in Regina, Saskatchewan to take advantage of a tax incentive. And when I got up there, the schedule became 18 days. Then 9 days in, we were told that there was some kind of mix up with the incentive and we had to cut another day, so we ended up shooting 192 scenes with a cat, a baby and a car crash up there in 17 nine and a half hour days. As luck would have it, we ended up with an amazing Supervising Producer, Rhonda Baker, and a hell of a Canadian crew, and the aesthetic up there provided a landscape that was just alien enough to not be recognized specifically, but not so alien that it became a distraction from the story, so it ended up just fine. Shooting films that quickly, for me, is a lot of fun because you have to trust your gut. You HAVE to. You have no choice. And I come from a school of filmmaking that really emphasizes preparation in a way that allows you to maximize those 1-3 takes you're getting. I just don't like to put a cast and crew through that schedule. Time is the bottom line. We had to cut multiple sequences from the film entirely because we just were going to be able to shoot them all that fast. But for all the financial restrictions, I really was allowed to make the movie I wanted to make, which is just an amazing luxury.

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Absolute Album Reviews

ARMED FOR APOCALYPSE - Defeat Metal Blade Records

Armed for Apocalypse, hailing from Chico, CA, and formed from ex-members of Will Haven and Red With Envy, manage to sound like they've just crawled out from some primordial-ooze swamp way back in the woods of Louisiana. Defeat has absolutely crushing riffs and hammering drums, sh'nuff. The kick-off track, "We Fell From the Bottom" is quite the pounding kick in the dick, and the record never really lets up from there. Echoes of Eyehategod reverberate throughout "A Failure" and "Hero Complex" completely stinks of Crowbars'/latter-day COC's collective nut sweat - thanks fellas, that's a great visual. If you don't like your metal crushingly-heavy, or you're hoping for a bit of respite with some mellow breakdowns, then I urge you to get the fuck out the way, because this record is the aural equivalent of a freight train bearing down on a little baby deer who's gotten his tender little hoof caught in the railroad track.

-Kyle Harcott

THE DEVIN TOWNSEND PROJECT- Addicted Hevy Devy

When Devin Townsend announced he was going to release a series of four albums late last year, fans worldwide blew their collective loads at the prospect. As an intro album to the four with its stripped back sound, Ki served its purpose in giving Dev heads their fix, but left many thirsting for the second, heavier release. Townsend has probably released his most pop orientated album here. Don't let the word pop scare you though, it's still heavy and contains many passages, ("Supercrush!", "In-Ah!") which mirror the grandiose days of Ocean Machine or Terria, but combined with less organic production methods and additional vocal styling of Anneke van Giersbergen, Addicted feels like it could be a dance floor staple for year 3000 crayon robots.

-Dyer the Omniscent

FUNK VIGILANTE - Civil Disobedience

Funk Vigilante's new CD Civil Disobedience speaks volumes of lyrical genius. Never in my years of working with music have I found something that made me furious and proud at the same time. This band is a product of our times - of love for all that is good in the world, of celebration for what we share in common, and of the hatred and fear of what we could become if we do not heed their warning. Civil Disobedience and its title track makes for an explosive seven song debut CD for F.V. "Top Of The World" is punchy and has hooks in all the right places. Even my little boy likes this one. Except he sings, "Oh Ya Freeeeee Gum!" instead of "Hell Ya Freedom!" But can you blame him? Free gum should be part of every childhood. The CD finishes up with what is possibly the best poke at George W. Bush to go down in history. Short it may be but Funk Vigilante is bigger than their music already. This is the kind of band that truly belongs to anyone who makes it their mission to be a guerrilla soldier in the Funk Vigilante army.

-Jen Warnock

THE GATES OF SLUMBER - Hymns of Blood and Thunder Metal Blade Records

You often hear the battle cry of "Fuck the Trends!" in the metal scene, but nobody can attest to sticking to their guns harder than Indianapolis The Gates of Slumber, who have been bashing out their Wino/Iommi-infused thulsa-doom since 1998. You remember 1998, don'tcha? Yeah, you were probably wearing track-suits and pricing out the cost of getting dreadlocks

CONVERGE - Axe to Fall Epitaph/Anti

The opening track "Dark Horse" instantly sets the tone for where Converge have taken their sound. A blitzkrieg of sound waves assault the listener and seriously, a breakdown in a converge song?!!!!..In-fucking-TENSE. I imagine this as the score to a horror movie where the villain is chasing you throughout a decrepit house, smashing through walls, obliterating doors and hunting you across a rooftop in the rain. Track five gives you a breather, but it is merely a false sense of security as the chase resumes, the menace draws nearer and soon you will succumb to his will. The final track feels like he has his hands wrapped around your neck and you're slowly losing

THE PHANTOM CREEPS Independent

This is a pretty badass full length debut with a psychobilly-meets-Social D sound. Tyler Brownfield's upright bass gets in a mean workout over these 11 tracks. They've clearly got the genre down, with songs about drinking, misery, and I'm assuming hotrods/those Betty Page pinup types who tore out your heart/hell/etc. For an independent release the sound is surprisingly well mixed or something. Really, any album with a cover featuring "a naked woman with batwings on her knees and holding a snake above her head" can't be bad.

www.phantomcreeps.com

-Jeff Valentine

PROFITS OF CRIME Independent

Spraying from a recently bombed oil pipeline, it's Profits of Crime. Hailing from Calgary, POC launch their sonic

ARMED FOR APOCALYPSE - Defeat Metal Blade Records

consciousness; almost a dream like state yet somehow you empathize with them and a peace washes over you.

-Pauly HC

THE DEVIN TOWNSEND PROJECT- Addicted Hevy Devy

done. Well, the 'Slumber guys were busy snorting crank (probably) and cranking out Vitus-Sabbath riffery akin to the Masters Themselves. With its shades of Candlemass, plaintive chorus "Beneath the Eyes of Mars" is sure to be a crowd-pleaser, especially if you're the type of crowd who cut its teeth on Métal Hurlant, and is fond of using Rumpel Minze as bong water. These cats wear their influences like an overcoat, so if you're someone who giggles at the words 'dungeons & dragons', you should probably stick to your Slipknot or Children of Bodom mp3s. The Gates of Slumber are not super-original, and they're not the best of their genre by far, but they're pretty fucking good by me, even if what they are, are pretty fucking good imitators.

-Kyle Harcott

NOFX - Coaster Fat Wreck Chords

Let's see here, Nofx can still play their instruments, and they definitely still have a great sense of humour, though possibly greater (or worse) than everyone elses. Nofx are still attacking the stupidity of our world from their unique vantage point. They comment on the downfall of America in "We Called it America", Fat Mike deals with the death of his loser father in "My Orphan Year", and with "Eddie, Bruce, and Paul" he picks on present day Iron Maiden. There are other great tracks, and perhaps some not so great ones; I am not sure exactly what Tegan and Sara did to these guys to deserve being picked on by them, but I can see how God could have pissed them off. Best song on the album is a reggae number with a catchy, catchy riff entitled "Best God in Show". A decent Nofx album all round. It keeps with the times, does nothing really new, but reminds us that after all these years we still have Nofx around, and in my opinion that is a good thing.

-Chuck Wurley

THE PHANTOM CREEPS Independent

Unlike a lot of three track demos that come our way, this one stood out with its eye catching cover art --- really well done! The first track, "Duality Exposed", opens up with some lightning fast double kicks, possibly triggered but I can't tell. The vocals rip in and they really have a Lamb of God type sound going on with his delivery. The second track is much of the same, really intense drum beats, layered with some dueling guitars that go back and forth between riffing and melody. Pushing close to 20 minutes, I think some of the songs go on too long, but the quality is there and I'm looking forward to a full album from these local metal upstarts!

-Pauly HC

THE RIOT BEFORE - Fists Buried In Pockets Say-10 Records

This is an album from a four piece punk band from Virginia, and it is quite the album! The singer's voice is just gruff enough while the lyrics are clever and even touching at moments. '5 to 9' is about the struggles an Mexican immigrant has to feed his family, and 'We Are Wild

NARDCORE COMPILATION - 30 YEARS LATER Burning Tree Records

Nardcore was a term applied to a unique type of punk rock bands originating from Oxnard, C.A. in the early 80's. Though only an hour north of L.A., Oxnard bands were a little grittier and a little cruder than their L.A. counterparts. Such great bands as Dr. Know, Ill Repute, Aggression and RKL were spawned by this movement; the first two of which are still kicking and have new songs on this 20 band comp. Newer Oxnard bands are also featured and continue that recognizably fast and crunchy Nardcore tradition. The 12" vinyl features 20 songs by 20 bands and also contains a CD with an extra song by each band. That's 40 songs by 20 bands. Lots to listen to myspace.com/vanardcore30yearslater for samples of all the tracks.

-Markus Jak

STALLIONS' is about the struggles of tour, yet not wanting to trade the experience for any sum of money. The Riot Before slows it down for "Words Written Over Coffee", which has a great folk feel and includes a somber harmonica. This album has a great range of styles and features ups and downs that a rollercoaster would have trouble matching.

-denis maille

SCIMITAR - A Fury Divine Independent

Two tracks, 15 minutes of sheer viking metal madness! Really well recorded & mixed. Makes you want to strap on a shield and grab a long sword and go raze a village or two. I'm not a huge fan of the backing vocals, they can get a little droning and I'm usually opposed to clean vocals in my metal. I just don't feel that there is any place for them. The musicianship is really tight and the guitar solos are mind boggling. For a new band's first demo -- it is really impressive. You can tell that these dudes love metal, and have soaked up every drip of influence from the genre they can.

-Pauly HC

SONIC BOOM SIX - City of Thieves Rebel Alliance

Truly a punk band that is about unity, Sonic Boom Six brings together musical styles as they try to bring together people. With clever, positive, and intelligent lyrics, they mash together musical styles from punk to hip-hop to ska to jungle beat and beyond. With the release of their fourth album, City of Thieves, this Manchester UK five piece decided to try a concept album. All the songs on here follow a theme, a present day city in decay, a comment upon their city I am sure, and also the world. The band kicks into high gear on this album, slowing down only a couple of times, once in the middle and again at the end. The songs range in subject matter from bullying, to loss of civil liberties, to greed, and to the transformation of people into monsters by way of alcohol. The band has dual vocalists, one female with a very beautiful voice, and the other male with a very thick British rude boy feel, perfect for the ska bits, though both of them sing and rap throughout. This band is not afraid to experiment with genre and sounds. They do not pigeon hole

STALLIONS' is about the struggles of tour, yet not wanting to trade the experience for any sum of money. The Riot Before slows it down for "Words Written Over Coffee", which has a great folk feel and includes a somber harmonica. This album has a great range of styles and features ups and downs that a rollercoaster would have trouble matching.

-denis maille

TEENAGE BOTTLEROCKET - They Came From the Shadows Fat Wreck Chords

Teenage Bottlerocket does not suffer from pretensions of trying to be original. They know what they are good at and they do it damn well. You need not even listen to their music to know this. They have had the same album cover for all four of their full length albums - they know that their skull and crossrocks logo is rad! In a world full of people that miss the Ramones, the Teenage Bottlerocket boys are just trying to fill a gap. We also get social commentary and pop culture appreciation. "Skate or Die" and "Bigger Than Kiss" are both great slabs of fun, while "Forbidden Planet" serves to remind us of what a fragile world we all live in. Other songs like "Fatsø Goes Nutzoid" and "The Jerk" seem to be designed to help us deal with the many insecurities we all face. See what I mean? Just like the Ramones, they talk about the world, and try to help us face issues of love and insecurity; all the while holding it together with guitar riffs that Ben Weasel is probably trying to think of a way to sue them over (even though I am sure Jughead wrote and played them all).

-Chuck Wurley

VANCOUVER KILLING SPREE - Self Titled Independent

The Vancouver Killing Spree is in its early stages. Only few have been killed so far, but hopefully they will be killing for years to come. The EP features five rock gems with 'Thatchie Magoon' and 'Poor Impulse Control' being the standout tracks. Guitarist/vocalist Brad Anderson's vocals slightly resemble a young Chi Pig, while on guitar he shreds cool riffs half the time and keeps steady rocking the other half. On bass, the lines slapped out get groovy, and the drums are as solid as they need to be; not going over and beyond what needs to make the music rock hard. It's punk rock with a groove. Who will their next victim be? To find out you'll just have to stay tuned to the Vancouver Killing Spree.

-denis maille

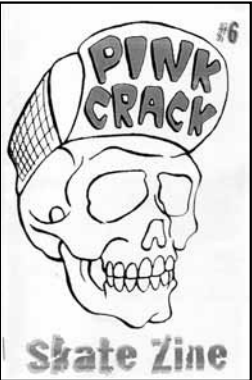
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read absoluteunderground.ca watch absoluteunderground.tv 39

SKATE ZINES 102

Hey skateboarders and the rest of you posers... summer is done and the winter rain on the concrete makes it too dangerous for this old man to ride his stunt wood. I sit with a stack of zines of the skateboarding variety and figure I better let you all know what the underground skateboarders are carving about. Here are a handful of zines from around the world unlike the rubbish shoe catalogue skate mags that can be purchased at the local grocery store. Great titles, great fun.

**PINK CRACK #6**  
Well the name says it all eh. This little zine is from North Carolina, home of some 16+ skate parks. 32 pages of gnarly coverage of what's being rode in this state. Bowl riding is alive and well and this zine proves it. It still baffles me why the leading skateboard magazines don't take lessons from zines like Pink Crack and get some real skateboarding photos in their pages. Pink Crack covers gatherings of skaters that spend time partying and riding in the sick parks of their environment. Page 6 shows a missed coping shot that we skateboarders all know and fear! Great carves, great airs and true skater brotherhood fill the pages of this zine. To top it off some real South Carolina Betties holding a rifle grace the last page of the zine. Real girls you just ain't gonna see in Playboy! This is a gooder and with a name like Pink Crack don't be fooled, this zine is all skateboard.



**SHARK BAIT #37**  
Reining from Oklahoma it looks like this 20 pager goes from street to bowl to ramp. Throw down a few interviews with a band called the Needle Points and some skater chat. Good photos and good feel on this zine. To top it off this zine has a run of 37 issues, not bad for a one man operation; the dude who puts this one out is dedicated.



**CRUEL MISTRESS #1**  
Another title that is misleading. Holy shit this color zine hails from the Essex London UK area. Basically I had no idea the old country was so rich in concrete and other skateable places. When I think of London I think of punk, well this zine has now schooled me that there's more to London. There is even a photo shoot of a place that looks like the legendary Burnside skate park in Portland. Ditches, cradles, full pipes! I never knew. Somebody call all the travel agents and have them stock copies of Cruel Mistress with their London brochures. I will one day travel to skate Abbey Road but thars a ton of parks in London that are way better places ride. Whooooo yeah get a copy of this one!

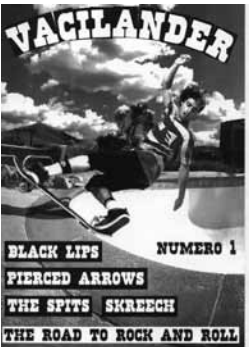


**SAUCE #007**  
Portland... hello anybody... Portland are you there? Then you get smacked with one of the best skate zines to come out of the fatherland of concrete. And I mean SMACKED. The man's name is Pod and he travels with a band of skate brothers, photographs and documents skateboard reality then serves it up in SAUCE. Color photos and a centerfold that is frame worthy to display in you moms kitchen. There are so many places to skate on this planet but these illusive full pipes are few and far in-between and Sauce covers them. They are drainage pipes so usually they are full of water, well the Sauce crews have the location and time of year just right for some awesome skating and the photos prove it. Real skateboarders that destroy the concrete that's what Sauce is about. Although photos are what makes Sauce so tasty it does come with a dash of scene report and skate rock coverage of equal gnarl factor. Hunt this zine down and get stoked!



**VACILANDER #1**  
A DVD/Zine that so reminds me of the 80's skaterock era but maybe a little more of a garage punk flavor. Music and more music... so much music I almost got lost. In a world saturated with screaming grunting and growling music I

totally forgot about Skate Rock... well it is alive and well and Vacilander has rounded a ton of it up to present to you in this awesome format. It's like the mixed tape that Dustin Jak slips you in a moment of passion only you're a little less likely to get internal bleeding. Some fair music showcased here with a head count of near twenty bands. As I watched this DVD I realized I am old and a lot of the bands are young punks who might not have been alive when I first started skateboarding. One band spotlighted on this DVD is the Pierced Arrows with members clocking in at over 60 years old, so that makes me feel young again. Some of the more notable bands: The Spits in Ronald Regan masks with a killer sound, Los Explosivos have a Mexican surf punk sound, The Okmoniks with Uma Thurman on vocals, and the Rippers that just plain RIPP. There's a lot more and if you're a fan of melodic style punk, this DVD/fanzine is for you. Although this package is very music heavy, it does have a small smattering of skateboarding. Punk is alive and Vacilander has the footage.



Hunt these zines down on the internet and give em your support.  
Fully Crazyed -Ricky Jak



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Absolute Book Review

**Kaspoit By Dennis E. Bolen,**  
Anvil Press, 258 pages,\$20  
The word kaspoit, invented by Bolen, refers to the sound of a beer can opening. The stench of stale beer, tobacco, reefer, pig shit and decaying corpses permeates a narrative that is all dialogue and sound effects. It is a hair-of-the-dog fever dream, not unlike James Ellroy's White Jazz or Irvine Welsh's Trainspotting.

Bolen, a Vancouver Island-raised novelist (Stupid Crimes, Kreckshuns, Toy Gun) has taken the problem of the limited press coverage of the pig-farm imbroglio and has created a speculative rationale behind the whole miasma of evil. What went on there? How did it go on for so long? How vast and far-reaching was the corruption? Did one pathetic loser become the fall guy behind a vast empire of sin and

depravity? Bolen speculates that there existed a white-trash crime syndicate that ran a booze can habituated by ignorant crackers and rednecks with no respect for human life, pity or compassion. Men of simple evil, brought together around a clubhouse of sorts where booze, drugs and skid-row hookers were available around the clock. The prostitutes were used until dead. An efficient body-disposal system was in place. All so a clientele of freaks and sadists could obtain transient base pleasures.

The book descends into the bowels of hell on earth and Dennis E. Bolen is a brave writer to let his imagination descend to these levels. If you manage to read through Kaspoit!, it will stay with you for a while. Your thoughts won't be quite the same.  
In collaboration with electronica composer Soressa Gardner and urban-image videographer Clancy Dennehey, Bolen has melded excerpts from his book into mixed-media videos. Check out <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dko2KRFMpmw> to get a taste. On December 14, Bolen is

Interview with Author  
Denis E. Bolen

By Les Wiseman  
Is it a book of literary brilliance? Quite possibly. However, it is also terrifying, repellent and hard going for even the moderately sensitive reader. "Kaspoit!" by Dennis E. Bolen is all the evil and badness that death metal and black metal could hope to achieve, but put on paper and bound between two covers.  
**Absolute Underground: What makes this a literary novel as opposed to a crime novel?**  
Dennis E. Bolen - Though most of my fiction resides in a criminal milieu (one could argue that my Holocaust novel "Stand in Hell" is also of that ilk, as it exists so substantially amid the atrocities of what was arguably the crime of the millennium) my conceits are exclusively tied to investigation of character - with plot and intrigue relegated to secondary and tertiary ranks. I cringe when lumped in with crime writers. As would actual crime writers if/when lumped in with me. Where the conventions of the crime novel are generally that of a puzzle, wherein elements of knowledge are withheld via structural trickery until the proper moment of reveal, my fiction tends to confess all in an honest chronological procession, which does not attempt to confuse or otherwise obfuscate the real-time truth for the purpose of suspense

and/or other entertainment ends. Thus I rely on character to supply any kind of mystery to my stories, as in: Why would a guy do that? or: How is this particular netherworld in existence? You might comment that with "Kaspoit!" I am deviating from this modus somewhat, and you could make a case. But still, this is mainly a story of characters interacting - creating action - and plot, though there is more in this book than any of my others, remains secondary. Most crime aficionados who eschew any but the most standard of the puzzle-plot mass-market writing so widely available today would be able to tell my literary disposition from across a bookstore. I never get crime readers telling me about my books

because they never read them. At the same time, because I seem to be a genre-buster, none of my publishers down the years have understood how to market me. Their habitual reversion to the crime elements in cover material and design have likely fended off the potential literary readership I might have had.  
**AU: What did you set out to achieve with this book and did you do it?**  
D.E.B.: I was perplexed at how insufficiently informed we are regarding recent terrible events involving the RCMP. Beginning with the Mayerthorpe tragedy, on through the Missing Women saga, most recently the Dziekanski inquiry, I've been wondering why the force - which I have revered since I was a kid whose best friend was the son of the local detachment OIC, on through my own



law-enforcement career - has been stumbling so badly. So, I had issues with how the crimes were investigated, prosecuted, but especially reported upon. Mostly, I was offended by media acquiescence to police versions of given crimes and their resulting comparative ignorance in informing the public at large. This created a virtual pre-trial conviction in the case of the [pig farm] affair. So I created an alternate-dimension RCMP - the blackest, most corrupt version of it I could imagine - then set my crazy characters amid an approximation of these events to see how things shook out.  
**AU: What was the germ of the idea that this could all be a massive conspiracy with one fellow as the patsy?**  
D.E.B.: As noted above, the media "conviction" of a guy whose image was always presented as that of a disheveled rummy, whose TV footage was always as one ankle-deep in shit with smeared overalls and a slobbery expression. He was made for a "television trial" and he got it; quick, unfair, obscure and utterly offensive to anyone still wondering what happened to their missing friends or relatives. The court-imposed publication ban was part of the problem; it left the media picking at the same thin bone for years. Overall, there's no excuse for our paucity of information about this case over the many years it's been going on and for the probable decades it will continue.

# Absolute Film Reviews

## Black Devil Doll (2009) LCD

He's a lover! He's a killer! He's a muthafuckin puppet! "Black Devil Doll" has arrived from Lowest Common Denominator Entertainment, combining Blacksploitation with "Puppet Master" esque cheese to create a horror/comedy masterpiece. There just isn't enough of this type of film in this politically correct age; "rated X by an all white jury", a Charles Lee Ray type of Ouija board incident converges a black militant serial killer's soul into one hard, blackened piece of wood. Set to a 70's style, funkadelic soundtrack, "Devil Doll" is a film which is shameless in its T & A and will do anything for a laugh. You thought Samuel L. Jackson was badass in "Pulp Fiction"? This puppet says nigger over 100 times a day – it's the only thing that keeps his teeth white. Shameless as well is the Rotten Cotton promotion in one scene. What's Rotten Cotton you ask? ONLY THE NUMBER ONE UNDERGROUND T SHIRT SYNDICATE ON THE FUCKING PLANET! (Great for wiping up jizz after sloppy seconds.) It seems improbable that the actresses could keep a straight face as a negro puppet fucks their doggy style and eats their pussies, let alone pretend to be impassioned about the ordeal – so I've gotta give it up to them. Lots of big tits and big asses here, just how a brother likes em'. Included in the DVD is a pimpin poster that actually blows the cover art out of the water, with an examination of the film's cultural impact on the other side. Commentaries include one by the film makers and one by a very drunk Black Devil Doll himself. Do whatever you can to get this DVD, including stealing mine.

Black Devil Dyer

## The Children (2009) Ghost House Underground

There's nothing like creepy kids wreaking havoc upon their parents during the Christmas season to really invoke some holiday spirit. "The Children" is--without a doubt--one of the most downright disturbing and effective films brought to us by the newly polished version of Ghost House Pictures, Ghost House Underground. One of the first to be released by GHU, "The Children" outwits and ultimately supersedes the majority of films to be released through the former, Ghost House Pictures, while making "Children of the Damned" look like an episode of that God awful purple fucking pathetic excuse for a creature of the prehistoric era that I'm sure we're all familiar with. After all, it isn't aliens we're dealing with here; these are children who haven't even reached the double digits yet! Writer/Director Tom Shankland does a superb job of reinventing a story that defies the boundaries of a topic which very few would even dare try tackling, by presenting the viewers with the ultimate parental taboo: Killing your own kids to save your own life. The plot holes are plentiful but planted so brilliantly throughout the film that they actually enhance the overall eeriness of the premise. Here are these portrait-perfect parents that go from enjoying what is supposed to be the most joyous time of the year together with their children, to gradually slipping deeper down the excruciating spiral of their offspring's madness--and after all is said and done, we are left without even the slightest idea as to how or why it happened...only the vague image of a mysterious yellow substance shown momentarily during the first half hour of the film. The Children does for 'Killer Kiddie' horror what "INSIDE" did for vengeance tales by providing an entirely fresh new take on a common theme. Guaranteed, you'll be reluctant to step anywhere near a playground or toy store after having your perception of childhood innocence violently altered.

Lacey Morris

## Clown Porn Ramco Productions

Well, having a fear/distaste for clowns really didn't put me in the frame of mind to dive into this and get a review done; to be honest it sat on my shelf for months. Finally I worked up motivation to put this "film" in and try and get through enough of it to review. Low budget and painstakingly tedious, a host guides you through five scenes - each more gut churning than the next. A "plot" riddled with rape/abduction innuendo as well as incest is pretty much intolerable. Not to mention the ridiculous "blacklight" view that displayed more jizz stains on one of the "actresses" than on a motel six bedspread. The "actors" were all B list, possibly even off the street, as one of the guys couldn't keep it up during his scene and he really looked rather uncomfortable. One clown's wig was put on top of her hair with zero attempt to tuck in her long black locks underneath. At the end, an overweight 55+ geezer playing a drunken clown father fucks his blindfolded daughter in front of an audience of grotesque looking clowns; honestly, if this shit turns you on, you are more demented than those propagating this debacle. The host said it best, and I paraphrase, as I didn't have the stomach to turn it on again and search for the scene "well all-right, that's about as much of that as I'd ever care to see again" In the future, kindly keep clowns out of pornography - I'm still trying to shake those disgusting images from my memory: That poor rubber chicken!!!

Pauly HC

## Death Weekend AKA: The House By the Lake (1976)



I'll admit I'm a sucker for "I Spit on Your Grave" style revenge movies. Add in the fact that this one is Canadian and we have got a win-win situation. A young wealthy dentist and his model date are looking forward to a quiet getaway at his villa by the lake. Before arriving at their destination a group of drunken thugs nearly run the couple off the road, but the couple fights back and the gang's vehicle ends up in a ditch. The couple continues on with their journey and after arriving at the lakeside house, settle in for a worry free weekend. Once the gang of goons find their way to the house things go from bad to worse as both parties seek revenge. The difference here is that the dentist proves to be just as sleazy as the thugs, even going so far as to spy on his date through a two-way mirror. This leaves the young woman alone as the sole protagonist of the film, which is always a good move considering it's hard to beat the excitement of a lone female vigilante. Nothing really groundbreaking here though, the gore is almost non-existent and the writing could have definitely used a couple of tweaks. Still though, if you're a fan of 70's era exploitation, I would highly suggest tracking down this forgotten piece of gritty cinema.

Brenin Barrow

## Dog Years (1997)

### Troma

Although this may not be the most outrageous Troma release and it's definitely not the bloodiest, Dog Years remains a thrilling and enjoyable low-budget crime/drama flick. The story follows Wally, a non-racist skinhead, and his Dalmatian "Neechee". When the two are out on a walk they get tangled up with a drug deal gone bad and Neechee gets dog-napped by gangsters who think Wally has something of theirs. With the help of an animal shelter employee and his gun collecting mechanic friend, Wally begins an adventure to rescue his dog. The plot thickens as Wally must not only find Neechee, but also escape from the hands of the gangsters. Is there blood and violence? Yes. Is there excessive blood and violence? No, which works a lot better for this type of movie than if there were tons of pointless violence. There's a fairly heavy dose of reality in this indie film as it's simply a story about a boy and his dog, which most pet owners can relate to. The fact that the protagonist of the film happens to be a skinhead, already makes this an original picture with a direct fuck-off stance towards anything Hollywood. Although the budget was obviously very low and the acting is often unbearable, a reasonably well written script, unique cast and an above average soundtrack make this one just plain fun to watch.

Brenin Barrow

## Hanger (2009)

### Plotdigger

Payback is a bitch of a whore. Ryan Nicholson's latest in his line of deliciously deranged films is his most depraved premise yet. A pregnant hooker is no good to anyone, so her pimp takes it upon himself to abort the fetus the old fashioned way via coat hanger. The baby is tossed into a dumpster, and 18 years later, crawls out to seek his revenge - but not before befriending an assortment of anomalies which would make the villainous gang in Dick Tracey look like a daisy chain of tanned normies at your local night club. Hanger is much like a darker version of a Troma movie, even featuring ol' Uncle Lloyd all dragged up in a small cameo. The death scenes keep with Nicholson's tradition to show things in horror movies that you just wouldn't see this side of Surrey. Death by douche, used tampon tea and the aforementioned coat hanger abortion are some of the highlights, with the atypical excellent soundtrack to accompany the madness - this time featuring B.C. heroes Bison. Fans of Nicholson's earlier masterpiece "Gutterballs" should expect a much different direction with "Hanger", but shouldn't be disappointed if they're used to sleaze classics like "Street Trash" or "Basket Case." Dirtier than a shitty diaper pie, but tasting just as fine, "Hanger" has been delivered at a healthy 8 lbs and is available now at [www.plotdigger.com](http://www.plotdigger.com).

Rev. Dyer

## The House Of The Devil (2009)

### Ti West

When a horror film begins, and the first secondary actress is Dee Wallace ("The Hills Have Eyes" (1977), "The Howling" (1981), you just know that the gang who orchestrated this film mean business. The formula is quite a familiar and simple one. Female protagonist Samantha needs money to get away from a crappy dorm existence. She has a great best gal-pal in Megan with the best flipped hair in the township who offers her financial help as she is from a rich but unloving family. We arrive in a quiet small town where she sees a photocopied flier with two simple, but effective words on it: "BABYSITTER NEEDED" that is it, that is all, and she immediately

rips one of the numbers off and proceeds to call. The voice on the other end sounds very odd, and of course creepy, but? What we do for the almighty \$. Meeting the mysterious 'Mr. Ulman' (played by another familiar facade, Tom Noonan) did not go as planned however and Sam gets stood up. When we finally meet Mr.Ulman,

we see that he is indeed even more strange in person, towering over them in his black garb, and expensive walking stick, as he smiles, immediately (and creepily) looks over the two innocents, admiring "...just how pretty they both are..". Sam is told that she isn't babysitting, per se, but taking care of his Mother In Law, whom he claims stays in bed, and need not even be disturbed. I cannot begin to do the film any justice if I spoil anything. Of note is a scene done very efficiently when Sam finds herself on the receiving end of a goat skull spewing black blood, binded within the deltas of a pentagram on the black floor, surrounded by candles and some dead 'things'. Oops, well...let that be something to perk your parts to. All in all, I was really excited about this film, and was not disappointed. I felt like Ti West was amazingly accurate with what he was going for. Think: THIS is the film that Rob Zombie has not been successful in being able to do. Sorry Rob.

Sins eerily,

Miss.Gory Rae X

## Wrong Turn 3 (2009)

### Fox Home Entertainment

You can't expect much from the third installment of a semi-mainstream backwoods cannibal series. WT3 screams "stereotype" from the moment it starts with horny college kids camping in the woods, to the by-the-book prison characters and, of course, the standard cannibalistic hillbillies. The plot concerns a group of violent criminals being transferred to a new penitentiary via bus. During the road trip the prison bus is run off the road and crashes in a forest which is inhabited by a human hunting mutant cannibal known as "Three Finger". Now, the prisoners and two security guards must learn to work together or die! Things move quickly enough and there are the usual twists that keep this from being a complete snore-fest, however this isn't the type of movie you watch for the storyline alone. What we're after here is a decent gore gag or two. Unfortunately there really isn't a drop more of blood'n'guts here than any other straight to DVD slasher, and the gore that does appear on screen is tainted with awful CGI effects. On a positive note, there is a pair of exposed breasts less than five minutes into the film, but still, this entry in the saga is lacking in most areas and is missing an important key element that the first sequel provided: Henry Rollins!

Brenin Barrow



# Jennifer Dolls – Vixen To Be

## By Art Godoy

Taken by images of classic pin-ups, vintage lingerie, and a raucous rock n' roll sound from a young age...what is a girl to do? For "vixen to be" Jennifer Dolls, the answer was quite clear really. At a time when most young women were finding their sexuality in the most

awkward of situations, Miss Dolls was setting a course to tempt and tantalize in the most classic of ways. From early time spent in her hometown of Vancouver B.C. to gracing the stage of the legendary Whiskey a Go-Go in Los Angeles, she has brought her take on seduction and striptease to a new level with the help of top musicians and performers from around the globe. Her acts range from a shimmering Swarovski Crystal encrusted doll house to her classic feather fans, all made complete by her adornment of dazzling satin and crystal gowns as well as the ever popular vintage style corsets.

Having made cameos in music videos and runway walks for up and coming fashion designers, the past five years have been quite a ride. Ever more recognizable with each show, Jennifer Dolls is set to stake her claim in the world of burlesque and entertainment as a whole with those eyes, those curves, and a rock n' roll presence you simply can't ignore. - Sean Farris

**Absolute Underground - I know lots of dancers like to dance to the classic big band burlesque music.. What do you listen to? And how has it influenced your stage show?**

Jennifer Dolls - I love everything but I am more into anything from Motörhead to Hanoi Rocks to classic punk rock or your cheesy 80s glam. Don't get me wrong I appreciate the classic burlesque music and I do use it in a few of my acts mixed in with some rock songs. So you get the best of both worlds. I do go for more of a dirty rock n roll feel in my acts though. Classic burlesque costumes with the glitz and glam but the moves and sounds of your favorite sleaze band.

**AU - Ok I get it about the musical influence, I haven't seen many burlesque acts with that type of influence, but there's something else, a sort of side show feel...**

JD - Yes... I have circus training. I have a few aerial acts in my shows including an aerial hoop. I also use a bit of fire and contortionism in my acts. I love that old school side show circus feel!! So I try and add it in there if I can...

**AU - Where have you been making most of your appearances?**

JD - Mainly my shows have been on the west coast, Vancouver, Seattle and L.A. however I will be branching out this coming year and hope to make it over to some of the European festivals soon. I also have shows in the works right now in L.A. and Seattle over the next few months.

**AU - You're getting pretty well known in the burlesque scene... I hear you have offers right now in L.A. , Sweden and London is it because of your glam influence, and their love for rock n roll?**

JD- Yes, a part of it is because I mostly do shows with bands. I have tried to get more involved with the Burlesque community but I find my acts are more suited to shows. I also dance in a show every year at the Whiskey A Go-Go in L.A. with a variety of international bands.

**AU - Do you hope to inject some life into the scene in Vancouver? Is there a Scene in Vancouver?**

JD - I do! I give props to all the girls in Vancouver who get involved in the scene and do it justice...I do find some girls put a lot more into their acts than others do, I think if you're going to do it, DO IT RIGHT! Put on a show, put some thought and money into your costumes and act. There is some great talent in Vancouver but I find it's like pulling teeth to get a good burlesque show going.

**AU - I have noted that you have quite the costumes compared to a lot of the girls I have seen... Do you make your**

own?

JD - I do make some of it myself. I get pieces for my acts all over but I also have a girl in L.A. that hand makes my corsets and outfits to suit my measurements. My Doll house and stage props other than my aerial hoop are made by me or my prop guy who is in Vancouver.

[www.myspace.com/Jenniferdolls](http://www.myspace.com/Jenniferdolls)

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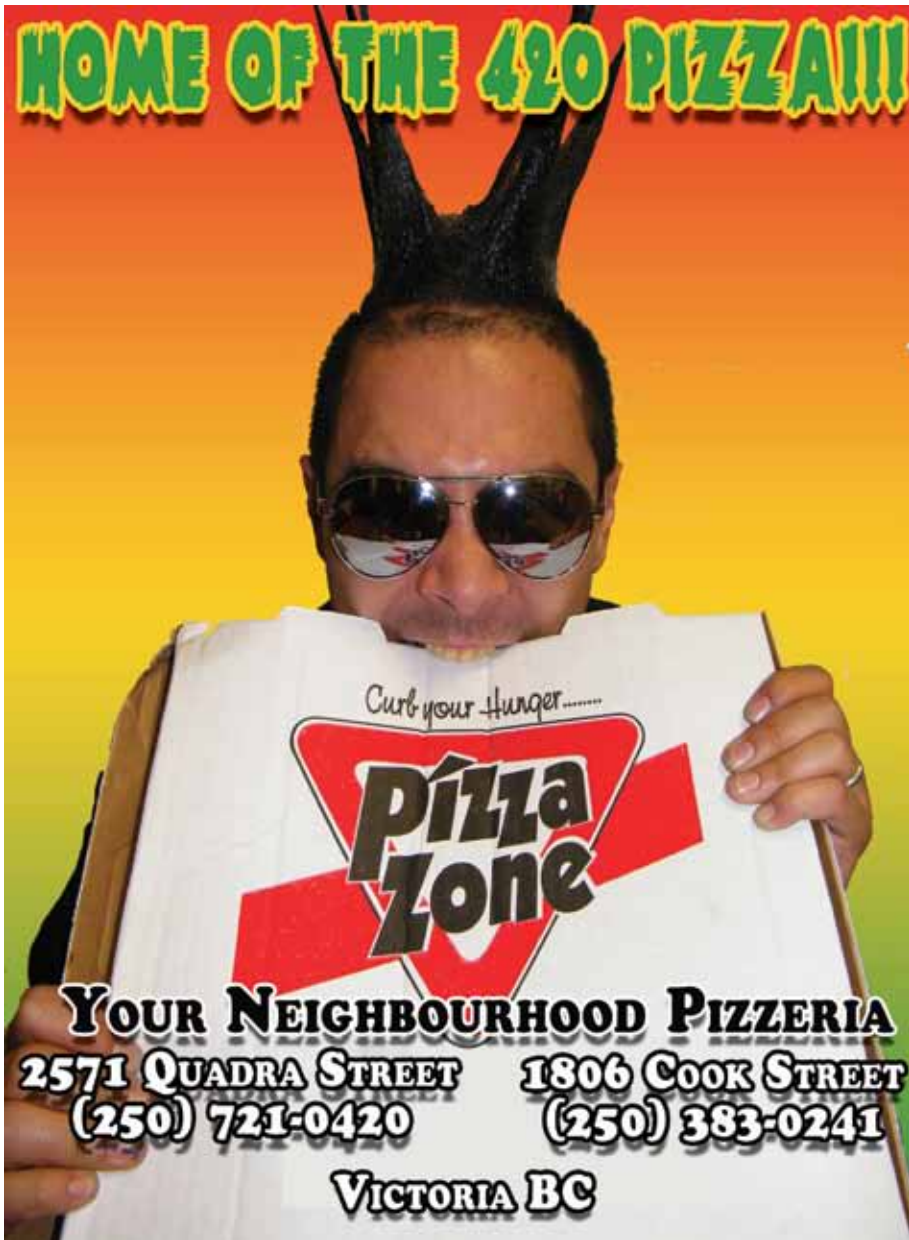
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## Absolute Horror

**Writer/Director Ryan Nicholson of Plotdigger Films**

By Ryan "Balls Deep" Dyer



**Absolute Underground:** You recently showed your newest film, "Hanger", to a theatre in Calgary at around the same time it was released on DVD – was this the first time you watched it with a crowd, and how has the reception been so far for the (totally uncut) film?

Ryan Nicholson: The Calgary midnight showing was the first time I have even seen the finished film. The people that came out to the screening were awesome and seemed to enjoy the sleaze. So far the horror community seems to be positive for the most part. It's such a different movie from my last films.

**AU:** How did Lloyd Kaufman get involved to play a cameo role in the film?

Ryan: That was through Debbie Rochon and her suggestion that Lloyd should have a cameo

appearance, I totally agreed. I've met Lloyd quite a few times and he has been a big inspiration to my work. It was an honor and the start of a good working relationship with Debbie, Lloyd and Plotdigger films.

**AU:** You mentioned that doing a film with characters in full makeup for the whole duration was inspired by "Dick Tracey", what other influences went into "Hanger"?

Ryan: 70's revenge movies and 42nd street filth. The kind of movies that were triple billed for a couple of bucks back in the day. This is most definitely an exploitation film. Asian fetish films also played a big part in "Hanger". 'Sin City' and its successful use of prosthetic character make-ups weighed heavily into "Hanger".

**AU:** Heavily cut versions of your films continue to surface in Germany. Can you give any comment on why they are butchered so heavily, and has Hanger suffered the same

censorship yet?

Ryan: Yes, Hanger was raped in Germany, all of my movies have had almost a third of the "content" cut out over there. It doesn't bother me too much because they do end up putting out the uncut version in places like Austria but it is pretty disheartening if the censored version is the first one the viewer sees. Germany is very strict on the violence but not so much the nudity. You can show a woman's corn hole but you can't show somebody being stabbed in the neck. Go figure?

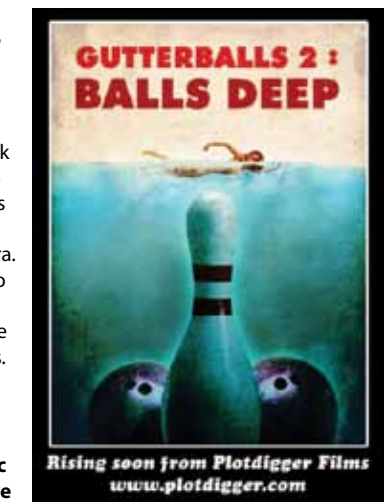
**AU:** Your films are vastly different from another in terms of plot but all have the same unmistakable style; what other avenues are you

going to explore with your upcoming film "Star Vehicle" and projects beyond that?

Ryan: I'm a product of the 80's but also the 70's. I think as I move forward I'll move back into the early mid 70's style of film making the "roughie" movies of that era. Not to say that I'm going to make violent pornos but my content will explore the darker regions of nastiness.

**AU:** Death by 69, gratuitous nudity from both sexes, coat hanger abortion, tampon tea, etc – are these ideas you have had in mind already or do they come with the appropriate film?

Ryan: These movies seem to write themselves. The content begs for these kinds of death scenes. I have much more up my sleeve, you can be sure of that. With characters that have such



disgusting habits, I like to incorporate those vices into their demise.

**AU:** There are a couple of versions of "Gutterballs" available – one with a full 80's Canadian rock soundtrack. Can you give any details on why any of the artists backed out from being included in the end?

Ryan: When one of the publishing companies found the synopsis online that graphically depicted the rape scene, it was

other than a bowling alley. "Gutterballs 2" is very much an outdoors, fun in the sun, flash your tits kind of movie more like the "Up the Creek" and "Caddyshack" style of filming. Wait until you see BBK in a speed!

**AU:** Does living everyday life in Surrey attribute to any ideas?

Ryan: Yes indeed. A place like Whalley gives me a lot of strange ideas. It's much more engaging than even the east side of downtown Vancouver. There has been quite a few murders in 2009 in Surrey, but I do my best to keep my death scenes fake and on screen.

**AU:** You are no stranger to producing some no holds barred imagery; is there anything you would consider to be too taboo to show in film?

Ryan: I think that as long as no one gets hurt and no one goes to jail while making my movies, we are doing okay. Pretty much anything is fair game.

**AU:** Closing statement for the horror community?

Ryan: As Max Renn once said, "Long live the new flesh!"

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Artist Profile - Steve Webb

Absolute Underground: Who are you and what are you known for?

Steve Webb: I'm Steve Webb. I am best known as the administrator at Metropoli in Victoria. I coach the Metroball Dodgeball Society and am the publisher of the arts and culture magazine, The Metropolitan. I also play drums for Rock n' Roll bastards, Growler.

AU: What made you choose this line of work?

Webb: I like music. I always thought gigposters were cool and I wanted to work in the industry. Gigposters are similar to things like graphic novels, in that it's a collaboration between two disciplines of art. A great poster artist has to try to communicate something about the music and make it appealing to a specific demographic for a fleeting period of time. It gets designed, printed and posted over a month- then it's gone. The truly fantastic thing is when someone takes a poster home and puts it on their wall to remember a life-changing experience. How many people do you know with gigposters tacked up somewhere? Often they don't even know who the artist was, but the poster means so much to them.

AU: Explain what Metropoli does to the layman at home?

Webb: We design, print and distribute thousands of posters a month all over the city. If you saw a poster in Victoria, there's a really good chance

we had a hand in it somehow. We have a creative department that designs logos, brochures, T-shirts, etc. and a full digital print shop to print handbills, booklets, tickets and pretty much anything else you can think of. Many people don't fully understand what we can do or the philosophy behind the company. We encourage you to call us up and have a chat about your project - we get an honest day's work helping people do cool shit.

AU: Was there previously poster wars on the poles downtown?

Webb: Indeed there was. For a time, we were in danger of losing the ability to legally poster entirely and the environmental impacts and costs were shocking. We're talking in excess of 60,000 total posters were going up monthly between all of us in 2002. We duked it out for many years, but Metropoli was really committed to the concept of 'poster management'. In the years since, we've reduced the overall poster in Victoria by about half and taken the art of gigposters a long way. For the most part, people appreciate a consistent and fairly priced poster service. It's been a long road but I have to acknowledge the work of Dimitri Demers and Scott Laming for laying down the framework for a concept like this back in the early part of this decade.

AU: What are some of your favorite posters Metropoli has designed?

Webb: We've had a roster of great guys working in our creative department over the years. Some of my favorites are the 2007 Dinosaur Jr. poster by Joey MacDonald (now of Olio Cooperative). Joey now has the best poster screenprinting

set-up in town and organizes the Livestock Poster Show that runs along with Rifflandia. I first discovered him when he used to make hand-sewn posters out of felt for his Aaargh! Records shows. There's a few by Brandon Velestuk (now of Scum Creative Labs) like his 2007 poster for Del Tha Funky Homosapien and his 2007 Cadence Weapon poster. Our current head of design at Metropoli is Evan Pine. He's done literally hundreds of posters for us. He has so many styles he can pull off, but I love his classic posters like his 2009 Randy Bachman poster.

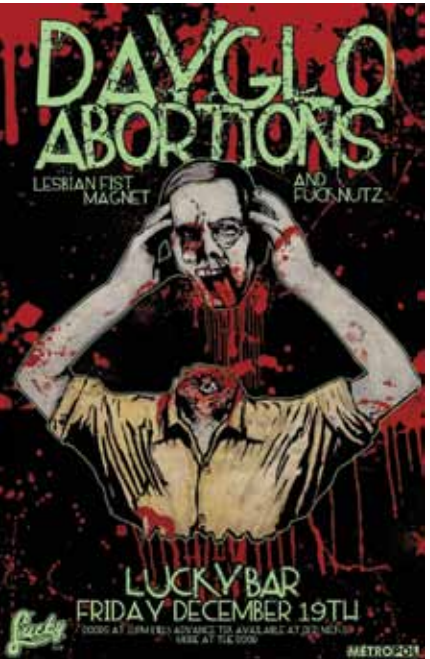
AU: Tell us about the Dodgeball team Metropoli is involved with? Did you recently go all the way down to Vegas to play?

Webb: The Metroball Dodgeball Society started as Metropoli endeavor, but I'm the only one in the office who still plays on the team. We play a lot and will throw down anytime (seriously, email me bitches). We did go to Las Vegas in August with 13 of Victoria's finest and represented Canada in the World Dodgeball Championships. We got our asses thoroughly handed to us, but we had some free drinks and crashed the stage in togas during Steel Panther's set.

AU: What was the inspiration behind the Metropolitan Magazine you publish?

Webb: The Metropolitan was originally made on a photocopier in the back of Lucky Bar in 2004 and was exclusively gigposters. I was seeing a really

ARTIST PROFILE



cool change in gigposter art citywide at that time and wanted to showcase it somehow. Nobody cared so I started throwing in band interviews and artist profiles. I think I sold an ad in 2005. We got serious in 2006 and 2008. We've frequently taken hiatuses to regroup and figure out ways to do it better. We've done about 45 issues and the last was a 32 page glossy magazine in February of 2009 that we are really proud of.

AU: Tell us about your new Metropoli website?

Webb: The thing about being poster nerds is that we have archived every single poster we have ever touched. We have estimated that when we are done, it will have about 5000 hi-resolution posters in it, searchable by venue, band, designer and the font 'papyrus'. We are committed to maintaining this archive as long as we are around and hope it will serve as a visual representation of the music industry in Victoria for years to come.

AU: What else is on the horizon for Metropoli?

Webb: Our print department has been kicking ass so we are opening a street level print shop in 2010. Probably buy a scooter for Kev. Oh, and I hope you guys like bowling.

www.imetropoli.com  
www.themetropolitan.ca  
www.metroball.ca

FYIYFI "Bound And Gagged in 2010"

By Liam Lux and Darcy Smith

They made promises. They told you they were on your side.

They promised it wouldn't cost too much. Early estimates by Gordon Campbell and the Vancouver Olympic Committee (VANOC) projected the total cost of the games at a cool 600 million dollars.

According to the latest reports at 2010Watch.com, costs will reach ten times those estimates, coming in at a whopping 6 billion dollars. They promised transparency so you'd know what they're doing with your dollars, but they still deny the outrageously spiraling costs. While Campbell stood with his fingers crossed behind his back, telling taxpayers they wouldn't foot the bill, his government slashed social programs, health care, education, and the arts - just to start.

They promised you'd make the money back. That hundreds of thousands of tourists with deep pockets and fat wallets would cause a boom in the local economy. They failed to mention that, historically, these booms last only the duration of the Olympics - three quick weeks that are invariably followed by a deeply depressed season far below annual averages. Whistler-Blackcomb ski resort is already anticipating huge losses due to "Olympic aversion." 90% of the mountain is still open to skiers - with zero parking available.

They promised the Games would be good for the city. They bragged about business development, better infrastructure, trade expansion, and jobs for everyone. But at what cost? When Cambie Street was gutted to install the new Canada Line, local businesses started going belly-up. One local designer and storeowner, Susan Heyes, sued the city for compensation - and won. But the city won't pay up. They're appealing the decision while they keep promising their empty promises.

They promised to be green, to "ensure a minimal environmental footprint." Instead of footprints, they're leaving tire treads. Big ones. Locals have watched green spaces, woods, and bog lands

like the Eagleridge Bluffs clear-cut and paved for the Sea-to-Sky expansion. Meanwhile, concrete and other waste from Olympic projects are polluting local rivers and poisoning salmon runs. Developers claim to "lead the way in green building design and standards," but instead of green buildings, you're left with glass houses. They promised not to fuck over the homeless. They've reportedly spent 2.5 billion on venues and housing for visiting athletes and media - but they're turning the Little Mountain social housing development into an Olympic parking lot, displacing 700 people, mostly families, children, and seniors. Even scarier is the forced exodus of Downtown Eastside inhabitants - those with and without addresses - as the city sweeps its mess under the rug and scrubs up for company.

They promised not to fuck with our freedom. They didn't mention that Olympic security policies override the Canadian Charter of Rights. By designating "free speech zones," or "protest pens," they are effectively making the rest of the city a "no-speech zone," where you're allowed to have an opinion as long as

you keep it to yourself. The new anti-ambush marketing bylaws effectively impose a gag order on the city, prohibiting anti-Olympic slogans. Even worse, police will be granted unprecedented new powers - powers that don't expire after the Games - to spot-check people for identification (Papers, please!) and inspect "large packages" at their discretion (Is that a bomb in your bag or are you just happy to see me?). The laws are written so vaguely that the cops can potentially single out whomever they choose. And anyone guilty of any misdemeanor - vagrancy (say goodbye to the homeless), drug possession (Pot-free pockets in BC?), or violating the anti-ambush bylaws with "suspect" political statements (hide your t-shirts at home) - could be detained indefinitely without trial because they plan to operate a skeleton criminal process over the course of the Games.

Celebrate Vancouver 2010 and watch your civil liberties trampled by "civic pride."

They made promises, but they lied.

(NEXT ISSUE: THE ABSOLUTE UNDERGROUND GUIDE TO SURVIVING THE OLYMPICS "WITH GLOWING HEARTS")



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# Absolute Cinema

## LET THEM KNOW: The Story Of Youth Brigade and BYO Records

by Mark Stern, Shawn Stern and Jamie Stern, 99 pgs.

BYO Records has been a part of my life pretty much from the beginning of my discovery of punk rock. SNFU was (and is) my favorite band and it was though their label that I found more favorites of mine like Youth Brigade, Personality Crisis, Stretch Marks and Adolescents. Much later in the mid to late 90s, I was getting review records for my fanzine and was still being introduced to new bands such as Pinhead Circus, Jon Cougar Concentration Camp, Four Letter Word and Jughead's Revenge via BYO.

This book is essentially the companion piece to the documentary DVD that is included with it (as well as the compilation records). It is Youth Brigade and BYO in the words of the Stern brothers and those closest to them. Great anecdotes, photos and fliers are the cornerstone here. The book really gives you a sense of where they are coming from and what they have been though without coming off like they invented punk rock. In fact, like the movie, I found their willingness to be able to poke fun at themselves refreshing. All too often "legends" are out there telling you just what they are legendary for. The Sterns don't do that, which proves why they are the real deal. I highly recommend grabbing a copy of this.

On to the documentary movie that focuses on the long

road travelled over the decades by Youth Brigade and BYO. Whether you like them or not is irrelevant; the sheer hard work and output these guys have done for the international punk rock community is massive. This documentary tells their story right from the beginning and does a great job of doing so. I was really glad for the opportunity to get a DVD of this since when I saw the premiere of it at Punk Rock Bowling a couple of years ago I was admittedly pretty shitfaced.

The first thing that strikes me about this film is the humor. Like in the book, The Stern brothers aren't afraid to take a joke at their own expense. Where other "punk rock legends" would be leaving anything to do with their old bands or forays into mainstream pop on the cutting room floor, these guys throw it all out there for everyone to see and laugh about. It seems any time Fat Mike opens his mouth, something funny comes out.

The music is great, the old footage of all the bands is amazing and the firsthand stories from the dawning of North American hardcore are priceless. It covers the early days of L. A. punk - Godzillas, Another State Of Mind, the expansion, closing and rebirth of the record

label, and Punk Rock Bowling (great footage of Team Tiltwheel in all their glory!). Even if you're not a punk rock history nerd like me this is a lot of fun to watch.

Now we move on to the most lacking part of the package. The concept behind the compilation is a great idea, but it also becomes its biggest liability. The premise is simple and awesome: Get a bunch of current bands (some on BYO and some not) and have them cover songs from the label's vast back catalog. Great. I'm all over

this since I'm a big fan of both BYO Records and cover songs. "What's the problem?" you ask. Well, my beef lies in the song selection. Sure, it's kind of cool to have the bands choose their own song, but there has to be some guidelines. The result is a good compilation but a pretty uneven representation of the bevy of amazing bands that have been on BYO over the years. Okay, those that know me might call me biased on what I'm about to say but I say it's a goddamn shame that there is only one SNFU cover on here and four(?) One Man Army songs. Nothing against OMA, but I don't get it. The only band that should rightfully have four songs covered (and they do) is Youth Brigade. Also, the only compilation songs that should have been allowed to be chosen should have come from "Someone Got Get Their Head Kicked In" and "Something To Believe In". It doesn't feel right to me to have bands that weren't even on BYO

have a song covered just because they had one track on a compilation in the late 90's. No matter how rad it is to hear Leatherface covering Dillinger Four (and it is incredibly rad!), it doesn't belong on this tribute. If we cut those songs out, as well as anything from the "Split Series" records and we've got some more room for some other bands like Jughead's Revenge, Pinhead Circus, Four Letter Word, Jon Cougar Concentration Camp or any of the other bands that have helped create the foundation of the label.

All of that said, I still love the majority of the songs on here, and it must have been a lot of fun to put together. Together in the package with the excellent book and the movie, it's an epic box set worth having

-Ty Stranglehold

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**5) Billy Joel - Big Shot**  
How the fuck did this asshole end up on here? Simple he sings a song about snorting Booger Sugar!!! So fuck you. On the same album as the Bosom buddies theme!!!

**6) Grateful Dead - Casey Jones**  
These guys in this mag!!!!!! They say coke six words into this excellent blues number, and ol' Jerry rips out some killer axe work!!!! You're welcome Willy.

**7) David Bowie - TVC 15**

## These are songs about SNOW

### 1) The Geto Boys - Scarface

Awesome coke dealer inspired rap from our homies down south in which our hero's girlfriend is shot in the head during sexual intercourse. Great holiday fun!

### 2) Eric Clapton - Cocaine

Standard cover of this JJ Cale staple, except who ends up down on the ground from that shit? Maybe crawling around for rocks?

### 3) Black Sabbath - Wall of Sleep

Perfect Ozzy number about "the devil's dandruff" that you wouldn't think was about drugs until the hints pop up - "chill that numbs from head to toe"

### 4) Black Sabbath - Snowblind

Ozzy originally wanted to call their fourth record "Cocaine" but the label execs weren't having that shit. Apparently he snuck in the studio at night to overdub the famous COCAINE whisper at the end of the first verse!!!

Excellent song about his good pal Jimmy Osterberg (Iggy) shooting so much cocaine that he was receiving "Transmission's" from Dave's television. Recorded at a time Bowie can't even remember!!!!

### 8) The Rolling Stones - Can't You Hear Me Knocking

One of the best Stones songs ever laid down, taken from the Sticky Fingers album. This was the transformation into the Sleazebag band we all loved so much until Keith got pinched for smack in TO in 78!

### 9) Johnny Cash - Cocaine Blues

What kind of psycho motherfuckers shot coke in the early 60's? **HARDCORE!!!!!!**

### 10) Master P - Ghetto Dope

Seriously thought I had heard it all until these New Orleans maniacs come out with a song that tells the average person how to buy cocaine and furnish into freebase with the use of boiling water and baking soda, then to go and peddle it. I tried that but I smoked all mine by accident. No shit.


- Dustin Jak

# HOROSCOPES

**December 2009 & January 2010**


**ARIES**

You are getting into positive new directions. December is for creating some bigger pond connections. You have such an energy boost around December 10th that you should be careful that you don't run rough shod over others. The sincerity that you have demonstrated over the past months is paying off in the generosity of friends and professional associates. Do take advantage, because the Eclipses New Years Eve and in January are indicating big changes in your career and reputation this winter. Late January brings you lots of attention. Being too freewheeling, may turn off supporters.




**LIBRA**

You are busy with networking and communication. You have ample support and may even find someone who wants to help make things happen for you. Key connections may be made around the December 16th New Moon. The Blue Moon is indicating change in your career over the next couple months. The Solar Eclipse January 14/15th heralds change in your home and family. The patterns and routines of domestic life are bound to change as you change what you are doing in the world. The Full Moon January 29/30th is so jam packed with significant creative fun that, for you, it starts on the 22nd.




**TAURUS**

The stars suggest that you are contemplating some life changes. You are intent upon building a more interesting and fun life. December's main theme is about financial planning. A long range plan requires some investment. Careful how much influence that you want to have on family decisions, because with influence comes responsibilities. Look for a career pat on the back or opportunity around December 21st. You have some resolutions this New Years. Make time for the class or join the gym. Even your career has some fun aspects the last week of January. The friendships that you firm up this year ahead will be fixtures for decades to come.




**SCORPIO**

The Full Moon December 1st and the 3 weeks following have your attention on finances. The plan of action gets underway with the New Moon December 14th. December 21st you are inspired with a vision of how things could be with home and family. Through the next 4 weeks you can change the patterns that see you and yours through your day to day living. You know how to be healthier and happier. Now is the time to integrate this knowledge into life. The Blue Moon/Lunar Eclipse New Years Eve brings a bit of a revelation and attitude adjustment.




**SAGITTARIUS**

Happy Birthday, Sagi. The Full Moon December 1st illuminates the status of your closest relationships. Make them better. You are as persuasive as you need to be. The New Moon December 14th is a green light to pursue your goals. Give voice to your positive feelings and spiritual illumination. You have been getting an inspiring positive thinking vibe since June, and this reaches a culmination December 21st. There is another angle for you to generate income. Market your skills. The Blue Moon/Lunar Eclipse brings some ideas about how you can do this. The Solar Eclipse January 14/15th helps get the ball rolling.




**GEMINI**

The emphasis is on your closest relationships. Have confidence. Through the first few days of December establish the lines of communication, which you want to deepen over the next few weeks. Around December 21st note the spiritual blessing that may even be accompanied by an angel. Don't be shy, ask it out. Christmas time is heavy and stressful. Be forewarned and don't take on too much responsibility. The Eclipses New Years Eve and January 15th suggest your circumstances are becoming more duty bound. There is adaptation needed to maintain your cash flow. The Full Moon January 29th lends enthusiasm and opportunity for fun.




**CANCER**

A situation is moving into your life that requires you to be stable and responsible for the next three years. Yet, the usual holiday preparations seem to flow a little easier this year. Yule, December 21st, is significant, because through spirituality and imagination you feel an empowerment, which has been building for months. The Eclipses New Years Eve and mid-January indicate drama and change in your closest personal relationships, which unfold over the next couple months. It is not bad; you are loved and cared about, but relationships will change. The Full Moon January 29th holds a caution flag around your finances.




**AQUARIUS**

The Sun in Sagittarius is a time of reflection. Watch out around the December 1st Full Moon that this is not enforced due to illness, with the Heenee flu being so pervasive. The New Moon December 16th is about an inner initiative to decide what you believe in. This is, also, a good time to figure out a context for your personal inspirations that can make money. With the Blue Moon/Lunar Eclipse New Years Eve you want to be sensitive to the others who mean the most to you. Over the next couple of months you are changing your personality.




**PISCES**

The Full Moon December 1st your kids or a creative project could use some attention. December 21st the Sun enters Capricorn and Jupiter has its last line up with Neptune of an influence that has been going on since June. People have been generous and forgiving towards you. If you have not noticed then you will notice when it stops. The Blue Moon/Eclipse New Years Eve and the Eclipse on January 14/15th herald a karmic reaping of what you have sown. Do not get aggressive with a partner, especially around the Full Moon January 29/30th, because they won't put up with it.



**VIRGO**

There is a challenge to stay positive. Do so by putting energy and intention into connecting to your spiritual side. The December 1st Full Moon suggests that you need to chose work over fun. Through mid-December take initiatives to reorganize your home and organize your family. December 20th-21st brings opportunities to improve your work and health situations. Christmas time seems a bit rough. The life changes indicated by the Eclipses New Years Eve and January 14th are about kids, romance, creativity, and fun; those areas of life where we take a chance and play. You are deciding to have more fun.



*David Zunker is an Astrologer, Tarot Card Reader, and occult guy in Victoria, who does readings and classes.*  
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Crossword & COMIX

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- Across

1. T, Cube, or Vanilla

4. Bro's lid

7. US gov't tax agency

10. Run

13. Artificial Respiration

14. Fall ill

15. US Intelligence agency

16. \_\_\_\_-friendly products are biodegradable

17. Outspoken hip hop act from NY

18. \_\_\_\_ feat. Chuck D & Flavor Flav

20. \_\_\_\_ Defereus

21. Metal bearing rock

22. \_\_\_\_ "baby"

23. Do do do do-do do do

24. False lure

27. United Nations University

28. Money \_\_\_\_ , Bullshit walks

31. Winchouse and Adams

32. Alien's instrument

34. Work like a dog

35. NWA classic 'bout slangin'

37. Renaissance, e.g.
- Down

39. Remit

40. Nest egg for retirement

41. 1/1000 kg

43. Refreshing citrus drink

45. Jay-Z enemy

47. Was burned on a deal

50. Place cocaine usually (but not always) goes

52. Dark beer

54. White Canadian Reggae Rap

55. Tasty \_\_\_\_ of NWH

57. \_\_\_\_ DMC

58. Saying or slogan

59. Please \_\_\_\_ don't hurt 'em

61. Each

62. Tai \_\_\_\_ Taiwan

64. Adrock, MCA and me (Mike D)

69. License to \_\_\_\_

70. Jagermeister mascot

71. Dosage (abbrev)

72. John or Jane

73. Molson product

74. Slander in the Rap world

75. Global Positioning System

76. Earl Simmons
- Across

1. Violent Jay and Shaggy 2 Dope

2. Heart of a computer

3. Seasoning

4. Type of Godmother

5. Warmonger Condoleezza

6. Matador's accolades

7. AmeriKKKa's Most Wanted

8. \_\_\_\_ of the Ancient Mariner

9. Thing Sam Kinison used to yell

10. Arrested

11. Adam Vauch

12. Trig function

13. More fancy free

19. Boy (Sp.)

23. Jazz culture's version of "dude"

24. Father

25. Skinny pants touque wearin' hipster kid

26. Black Sunday Group

27. Place for someone's ashes

29. New Korean carmaker

30. Stallone nickname

32. John Phillips and Dennis Doherty
- Down

33. Psychadelic Fungus that grows on rye wheat

36. \_\_\_\_ Messenger

38. Bergman or Bell

42. Soak up

43. Army insect

44. Joey Shithead & the boys

46. Runs naked in public

47. Gat

48. Alpha Omega Tau

49. 2

51. Est. time of arrival

53. Belonging to us

56. Emplance

58. Runs into

60. French mix

61. 50 Cent hit

62. English boy on South Park

63. NFL Quarterback Manning

65. Spraybomb

66. Queer

67. \_\_\_\_ Kippur

68. Unambiguous Madonna book title
- By Dan Scum

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Sex Column XXX



Dear Dr. JJ,  
Does size matter?  
-Unsatisfied Sue

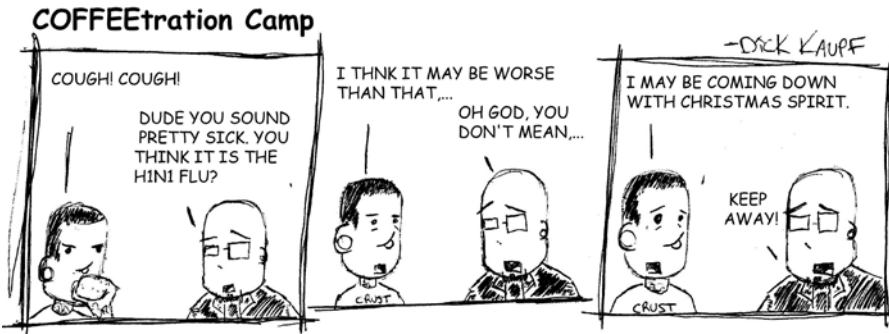
Dear Unsatisfied,  
Absolutely!! I think the size of the vagina is incredibly important and shouldn't be so overlooked and understated. The different sizes and varieties of pussy are far vaster than the range of penis size. Some girls are so tight they can't fuck like normal people, and some girls can fit your whole head up there. So who should the onus be on? Speaking of onus... a small dick is great for backdoor action, he probably gives great head, and chances are he's got some wicked tricks up his sleeve because he knows he's hung like Ellen Degeneres and learned at a

young age to make up for his so called "inadequacies." I've always wondered why this one always falls on the guy. After all, women have more control over the snugness of the wizard sleeve than men do over the size of their pork sword. If you can't feel it, do a fucking kegel or two, sloppy Sue.  
-Hugz, Doctor J.

Dear Doctor J,  
Have you ever been fucked so hard that you instantly felt ill? Within two minutes of it being over, I got shockingly bad pains that sent me to the washroom with hot flashes and excruciating cramps. I hugged the toilet and bathtub to cool off while the room spinned. What could have happened to me?  
-Allergic to sperm?

Dear Allergic,  
First of all, my sordid and filthy advice should never be used without also consulting your gynecologist. Judging by your symptoms, it could be any number of things. Without a speculum and a naughty nurse outfit, I can't properly diagnose jack shit. I doubt you're afflicted with Jack Shit anyways, that occurs most commonly in homosexual males. Here's a few possibilities to feed your eager mind.

FYI, ladies, this is NOT a normal symptom and it's not that common, but many women do experience it at some point or another. Don't ignore it. Go to the doctor.  
-Love, (Va) JJ.



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